

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS



No. 543.—VOL. XX.]

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 1852.

[SIXPENCE { WITH SUPPLEMENT GRATIS.

THE APPROACHING SESSION.

THE Session of Parliament which will be opened next week by the Queen of Great Britain will commence its labours under peculiar if not perilous circumstances. Whether at home or abroad, the "signs of the times" are of a nature to create solicitude. But it is chiefly the events of the Continent, and more especially those which are taking place in that great powder-magazine—the country which is our nearest neighbour—that will excite in the highest degree the earnest attention of men of all parties, and that will render the business of Parliament and the position of the Administration so important on the one hand and so delicate on the other.

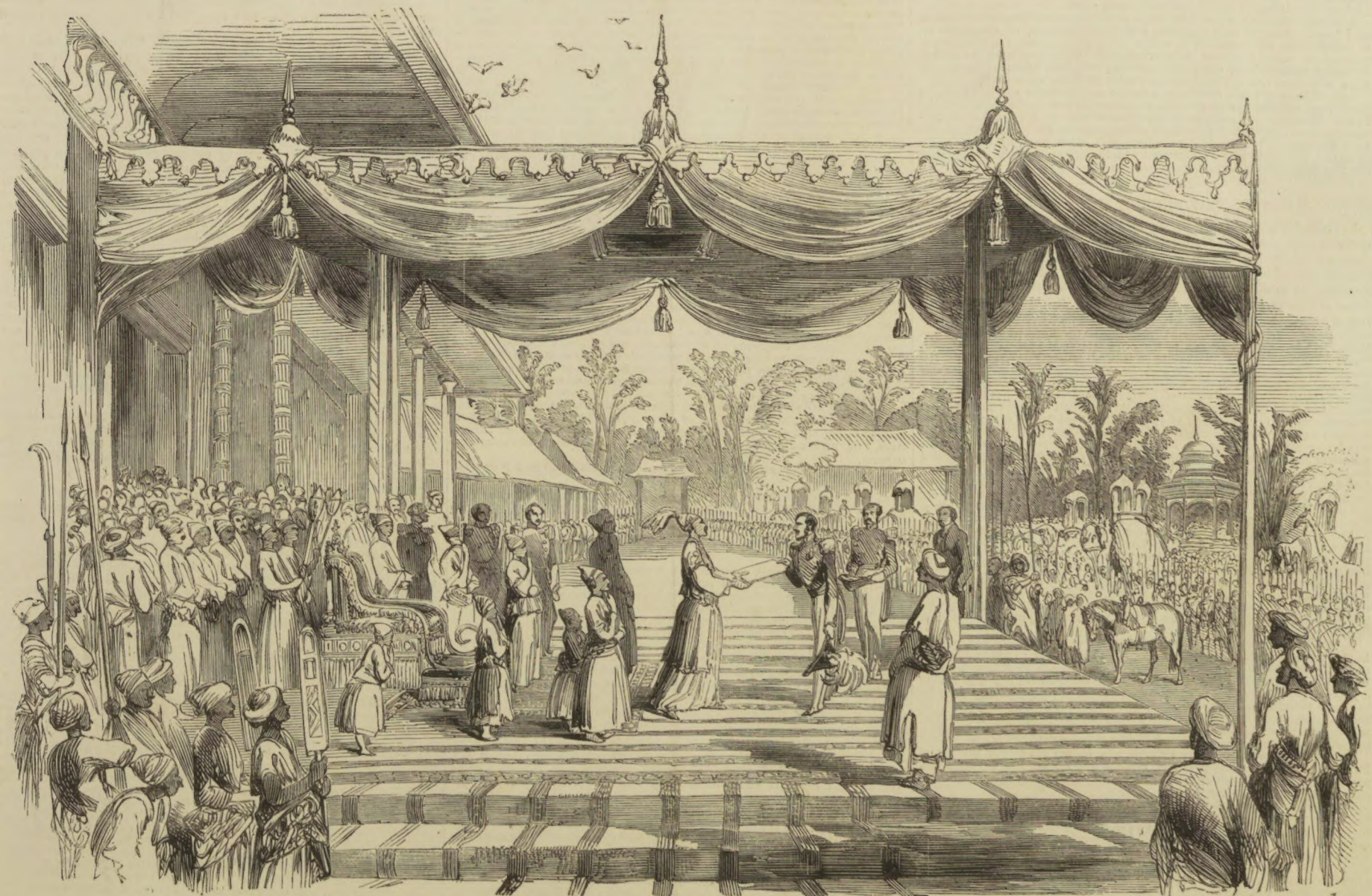
The British Parliament is, unfortunately for the great interests of civilisation, the only Parliament in Europe. Everywhere else, with the exception of Belgium and Holland, whose very existence is menaced by the needy adventurer and unscrupulous despot who sits in the Tuileries, and of Denmark, Sweden, and Norway, too remote and weak to be of any influence, the voice of opinion is either stilled or powerless. Anti-English ideas are in the ascendant throughout Europe, and this country stands almost alone in the Old World as the champion and exponent of rational liberty. A soldiery to overcome the people, and a people to submit until they have a chance to throw off the infliction, are the only classes permitted to exist in the most powerful and civilised states of the world; and designs of ambition and extension of territory, or of a military grudge against this country, are those which are most popular with, and most consonant to, the spirit of their warlike and aggressive rulers. Under these circumstances, it is a matter of the highest national importance to consider what is the character and what are the duties and intentions of the men who stand at

this moment in the responsible position of the advisers of the British Crown.

The character of the Russell Administration is certainly not of the highest. In losing the services of Lord Palmerston, by far the most popular, and beyond all question the most able, though possibly not the most discreet of his colleagues, Lord John Russell has lost the right hand of his Ministry. With the sole exception of his own name, and that only popular from the remembrance of services rendered twenty years ago, and by no means identified with any recent acts of statesmanship, the Administration does not boast of a single individual whose character, abilities, or achievements are in any degree commanding or even remarkable. In this commercial and industrial country it is of the highest importance that the Financial Minister should be a man of prudence, of business-like talent, and of far-seeing sagacity. In a nation boasting of a greater number of colonies, peopled by a greater diversity of races, than any other nation, either of past or present times, it is equally important that the Colonial Minister should command respect at home, and confidence as well as obedience in those near and remote dependencies of the empire which are entrusted to his care. We need not ask whether Sir Charles Wood and Lord Grey fulfil these conditions. The name of the one is almost synonymous with financial blundering, and of the other with haughty and unreasoning misrule. The Premier himself is respectable and able, but he has ceased to inspire affection or to command confidence; the Home Minister is respectable, and no more; while of the Foreign Minister all that can be said is, that he is a man of the highest promise and a credit to his order; but that, as yet, he has given no proofs that he has energies sufficient for the due and safe performance of the responsible duties of the very high position in which he has been placed. The other members of the Ministry, important as they

may be considered as members and connexions of the Grey and Russell families, are of no importance either to the Administration or the country.

So much for the character of the Ministry, which, for the last three years, if not for a longer period, has only existed upon sufferance, and because no other body of statesmen was prepared to step into its place. We have now to consider what we know of the plans and intentions of these gentlemen for conducting the affairs of the country, through the remarkable crisis of European history at which we have now arrived. Of these intentions, with the exception of one, the world is absolutely in the dark. Whether they are on the point of disintegration from disagreement among themselves, or whether they have strengthened their position by the adoption of a line of policy to which they have pledged themselves, are points which none out of their own circle can at present determine. Whether they can carry on the Government by means of the present Parliament, or whether they have made up their minds, if defeated by the Parliament, to appeal to the country, is known but to themselves. All that the country has been permitted to gather of their plans and intentions is, that the Premier stands pledged to introduce a new Reform Bill, and that, if the House of Commons do not pass it, the probabilities are, that the Russell Administration will be forthwith numbered among the things and Ministries that were. We know also that the country is supremely indifferent to the promised Reform Bill, that it has not demanded it with any extraordinary vigour, or taken any particular interest about it, and that it even suspects that the Prime Minister himself more than half regrets that, in a fit of pique at the accidental defeat of his Government in a thin House in the session of 1851, he should have made so rash a promise for the session of 1852.



RECEPTION BY HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA OF TRAVANCORE, OF THE LETTER OF HER MAJESTY QUEEN VICTORIA.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

The attempt to get up a reform cry has proved a signal failure and although it may by some persons be thought a wise and safe policy to attempt to reform the admitted defects of our representative system, at a time when there is no popular or unnatural excitement upon the subject, it is, at least, somewhat doubtful in the minds of others whose opinions are equally entitled to respectful consideration, whether it is true policy for a Government to volunteer reforms that are not asked for, especially when the anticipated benefits are at best but problematical.

But although the country thus knows but little of the intentions of the Government for the year 1852, and although that little is not of a kind to excite any enthusiasm, it knows something of the duties that devolve upon its rulers at a time like the present. To maintain the honour of England, both at home and abroad; to tranquillize the well-founded apprehensions of the country, by placing it in a position not only to repel attack, but to prevent it by a preliminary display of strength, confidence, and self-reliance; in the midst of all undoubted peril, and of all possible treachery, to maintain inviolate the liberties of Englishmen, and the sanctity of the British soil; to call forth the warlike energy of the people whenever and wherever a display of it may be needed; and to do all this without impairing the national resources, or imposing unwise or unnecessary burthens upon the backs of the industrious—these are a few of the duties that devolve upon any Administration that, at a juncture like this, expects to retain or acquire the support of public opinion, and the gratitude of the present or a future generation. It is just possible that the members of the Russell Administration are aware of these duties, and equal to the discharge of them. It is to be hoped that they are, because changes of Ministry and dissolutions of Parliament are inconvenient, to say the least of them, at such a time, and under such circumstances. But, whatever may be the intentions or the fate of the Administration, the sentiments, opinions, and energies of the people are such as ought to, and must, inspire any Government with zeal and confidence. In this country the war of contending factions has all but ceased, and would cease as entirely as is consistent with a representative form of government at the first prospect of any real aggression upon the honour or security of the nation. But something better and more tangible than Reform Bills is just now expected. The country will not object to a Reform Bill if prudently and effectively set forth; but it will object, if nothing but a barren Reform Bill be offered to it. The present is no time for doctrinaire abstraction and legislative trifling, but for serious and urgent business; and any Ministry that will zealously and wisely set about it, even although every individual member of it should be a Grey or a Russell, would deserve and receive public support. As we have said before, it is possible that the present Government fully understands what is expected of it, and is as fully competent and prepared to do it. We sincerely hope that it may prove so, and that Lord John Russell and his colleagues may make amends for the lazy indifference and discreditable bungling of the past by zeal that shall not outrun discretion, and by discretion and judgment that shall leave nothing unprovided for, and that shall only undertake what can be well and thoroughly accomplished.

STATE RECEPTION AT TRIVANDRUM, THE CAPITAL OF TRAVANCORE.

THE interesting pageant pictured upon the preceding page is illustrative of Eastern ceremonials, and also is associated with our Great Exhibition of 1851. It represents the Court of his Royal Highness the Maharaja of Travancore, assembled in its utmost magnificence to do honour to a most important occasion—the reception (on the 27th of November last) by his Highness of an autograph letter of Queen Victoria conveying to his Highness her Majesty's most gracious acceptance of the very superb carved ivory chair, or throne, which was exhibited by her Majesty in the Crystal Palace, and formed one of our Engravings in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for Sept. 6 (page 293).

The present sketch is curious, as being descriptive of the gorgeous display observed in the East on such occasions; whilst it records the high sense entertained by the Eastern potentate of her Majesty's distinction and favour on this memorable occasion, it being an unusual mark of Royal consideration.

The Court of Travancore, however, it is well known, has long been perhaps the most loyal of our Eastern allies, although still independent, and has been marked by the very high degree of intelligence, of European tastes and accomplishments, attained by the late and the present rulers.

A correspondent on the spot describes to us the sumptuous display of "cloth of gold" and jewels; of state elephants and gilded howdahs, of cameloopards, of tamed tigers, and rhinoceri, as well as troops of the line and cavalry, which escorted the valued document the entire distance (two miles) from the British Residency to the Palace; and peals of artillery shook the old fort to its foundations, as General Cullen placed the same in his Highness' eager hands.

A grand banquet at the Residency, a nautch and fireworks at the Palace, in which loyal and appropriate mottoes, complimentary to her Majesty and the Prince Consort, were conspicuous, terminated this (to the capital of Travancore) most auspicious day; while the event, we are informed, is to be still more permanently perpetuated by a costly work of art from the pencil of an artist (Mr. Lewis) already well known by his Eastern productions, to appear in due time in England for exhibition and engraving.

THE NEW FRENCH MINISTERS.

M. Fialin de Persigny, the presiding spirit of the new Ministry, has been long quoted as the completest representative of the *Idées Napoléoniennes*, the *fidus Achates* of the President, his shadow, and through all administration his most intimate counsellor. Whatever Ministers were in office, the influence of M. de Persigny was behind the curtain. Born in 1810, he became a pupil of the School of Saumur, and entered in 1829 the 4th Regiment of Hussars. Having retired from the army, he founded in 1833 the *Révue de l'Occident Français*, in which he published an elaborate examination of the Imperial system. This publication first introduced him to the acquaintance of Louis Napoleon, with whom he formed henceforth the closest ties of intimacy. M. Fialin figured among the most sanguine adventurers in the expeditions of Strasbourg and Boulogne. In the latter he was taken prisoner, tried before the Court of Peers, and condemned to twenty years of imprisonment. He had already suffered more than a third of this term of captivity in the prison of Doullens, when he was released by the revolution of February. I need hardly say that M. de Persigny has not shown much gratitude to his great liberator; Bonapartism, of which he is the soul, having been one long campaign against the men and institutions of 1848. M. de Persigny's diplomatic missions to Berlin and other Courts are too well known to need further mention here. Meantime, it will be important to remember that this confident of the President recently undertook a journey to Brussels, for the sake of urging upon Leopold certain measures for the expulsion or rigorous treatment of refugees, and for the coercion of the press. No one has been astonished, although many have been grieved, at the tame compliance of the Belgian Government with the dictates of the Tuileries. The expulsion of M. Carnot, of Alexandre Thomas, and several other estimable men, and the violence allowed towards the exiles liberated from Ham within the Belgian territory, are sufficient evidence that the independence of Belgium is gone. M. de Persigny, it is thought, will soon succeed to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It is to be hoped that his administration will be such as to give no colour to a fear very widely felt, and that the absorption of Belgium may not, like the confiscation of the Orleans property, be proclaimed to the world by a decree.

M. Abbatucci, the new Minister of Justice, has always been one of the leading advisers of Louis Napoleon. Until the appearance of his name in the same Ministry with M. de Persigny, he was esteemed one of the moderate party. Under the monarchy of July he was a member of the Chamber of Deputies and a Judge of the Court of Appeal at Orleans. After the revolution of February he became a Judge of the Court of Cassation and representative of the Loiret. In both Assemblies he was dumb, and is, therefore, consistently an advocate of parliamentary mutism. He is called M. Abbatucci père, to distinguish him from his son, the representative of Corsica, to which island the family belongs.

M. Bineau, the new Minister of Finance, was, as you are aware, Minister of Public Works in the Ministry of MM. Baroche and Fould. For the latter department he was not ill calculated, having been formerly head engineer of mines, and of diligent, business-like habits.

The "new and simple politique," as M. de Morny calls it in his circular, does not admit of discussion. The Ministers will learn the President's will through his Minister of State, who is charged with precisely the same functions that were discharged by Maret, Duke of Bassano, under the Emperor. M. Xavier de Casabianca, to whom this post is confided, was formerly the advocate of the claims of the Bonaparte family, and probably suggested some of the chicaning considerations upon which the decrees of yesterday were founded.

M. de Persigny has appointed as his *chef de cabinet* M. Théophile de Montour, formerly one of the editorial staff of the *Paix*, then *rédauteur* of the *Pouvoir*, and lastly of the *Public*, the halfpenny newspaper recently set up.—*Daily News*.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.

The decree of the President of the Republic confiscating the property of the Orleans family, the purport of which we gave in our late edition of last week, has produced so painful a sensation in the public mind, that an announcement in the *Constitutionnel* of Wednesday, to the effect that the decree in question would be referred for final consideration to the Senate and Legislative Body, was received with great satisfaction by almost all circles, without exception, in Paris. An official note, however, communicated from the Government to the newspapers, has effectually dispelled all the hopes which the *Constitutionnel* had thus called into existence, for the communication states the announcement of that journal to be wholly without foundation, and that the decree is final. By this measure it is decreed that the members of the Orleans family, their husbands and consorts, and descendants, cannot possess any property (moveable or immoveable) in France. They are bound to sell them within the year, and in default they will be sold by the domain. Another decree cancels the donation of his private property made by Louis Philippe on the 7th August to his children, and enacts that their properties, of about two hundred millions of francs, shall be employed as follows:—Ten millions to societies of *secours mutuels*. Ten millions to the improvement of the lodgings for the working classes. Ten millions to the establishment of a fund for granting loans on mortgage in the departments. Five millions to a benefit fund for the poorer clergy. All the officers, sub-officers, and soldiers on active service will receive, according to their rank in the Legion of Honour, as follows: viz. the Legionary, 250 francs; the Officers, 500 francs; Commanders, 1000 francs; Grand Officers, 2000 francs; Grand Crosses, 3000 francs.

Messrs. de Morny, Fould, and others of the Ministers, having refused to concur in this confiscation of the Orleans property, have resigned, and the Ministry, which has been re-modelled and re-organised (a new "Ministry of State" and a "Ministry of Police" having been created), now consists of the following members: viz. MM. Abbatucci, Justice; de Persigny, Interior, Agriculture, and Commerce; Bineau, Finances; de Saint Arnaud, War; Ducos, Marine; Turgot, Foreign Affairs; Fortoul, Public Instruction and Worship; De Maupas, Police; Casabianca, State; Lefebvre Durand, Public Works.

The confiscation decree has called forth spirited protests from M. de Montalembert and M. Dupin, the eminent lawyer and President of the late Legislative Assembly. The former, together with MM. Merode, de Mortemart, de Moustier, A. Giraud, André, Mathieu, Baudet, Desrobert, and Hallez Chapard, have refused to countenance a Government which could be guilty of such a measure, and have accordingly tendered their resignations as members of the Consultative Commission. M. Dupin, also, has resigned his post of Procureur-General of the Court of Cassation, which high office he has filled for twenty-two years.

The following are the letters of MM. Montalembert and Dupin. They first appeared in the London papers, the Paris journals not being allowed to publish them:—

Paris, Jan. 23, 1852.

M. le Ministre.—In consequence of the decrees which appeared this morning, I consider myself called on to perform an imperative duty; and I beg you accordingly to be good enough to present, for the acceptance of the President of the Republic, my resignation of the functions of member of the Consultative Commission, created on the 2d of December last. Though that commission has not been consulted on any of the acts of the Executive, there does not the less exist, in the eyes of the public, for those who compose it, a species of *solidarité* with the policy of the Government, which it becomes impossible for me henceforth to accept. I appeal to your honour, M. le Ministre, and, in case of necessity, to that of Prince Louis Napoleon himself, to make my resignation public through the same channel as my nomination—that is, by its insertion in the *Moniteur*.

Accept, M. le Ministre, &c.,

To M. de Casabianca, Minister of State. CH. DE MONTALEMBERT.

To the President of the Republic.

I regret exceedingly, that, previous to the publication of the decree which I have read this morning in the *Moniteur*, you had not heard my opinion with the same kindness you have sometimes manifested towards me. I should have tried to demonstrate to you, not merely in the private interest of the children, the greater part minors, of the late King, of whom I am one of the testamentary executors, but in the interest of your own Government, that those who have suggested that measure are not acquainted with the facts, and that they have disregarded all the rules of law and equity. In fact, there is an extreme exaggeration (at least to the amount of half) in the estimate made of the property of the Orleans family. In law the decree violates in its essence the very principle of property. The right of property was recognised, after a solemn discussion, in the person of the late King, by the 22d and 23d clauses of the law of the 3d of March, 1832; and in the person of his children by the very acts of the revolution of February, by the decree of the Constitutional Assembly of the 26th of October, 1848, and by the law of the National Assembly of the 4th of February, 1850, promulgated by your Government, and authorised the loan of 20,000,000. On that property by your Minister of Finance. Thus, public right, will, special laws, contracts—all have recognised in the hands of the Princes of the House of Orleans their right to the property which the decree of the 22d of January deprives them of all at once, and in a manner so absolute that the sacred rights of the tomb, the burial-ground of Dreux, are not even excepted. If the Constitution of the 16th of January was in vigour, the Senate might be appealed to in virtue of the 26th article, which permits that body "to make opposition to the promulgation of laws which are contrary to the inviolable character of property." In the present state of things, the only resource is to appeal to you, Prince, and to invoke your wisdom and the magnanimity of your own feelings when they are again consulted and more deliberately listened to. But, if these rigorous measures are to be maintained, a great scruple arises from the depth of my conscience. As Procureur-General to the Court of Cassation for nearly twenty-two years; as the principal organ of the law in that high branch of jurisdiction; charged as I am by the Government to proclaim the constant respect to right, and to require the reversal and the annulling of the acts which violate the laws, or which constitute the incompetence or the excesses of the Government—how shall I be able henceforth to exercise the same firmness if acts are introduced in our legislation which are in contradiction with those principles? I feel myself bound, therefore, to tender you my resignation. But I pray you, Prince, and in an earnest manner, not to misunderstand my motives. The resolution I have adopted has nothing to do with politics. As President of the late Assembly I rigorously kept myself apart from parties and their fatal divisions, and limited myself to maintain, as much as I individually could, the legal and moral doctrines on which the essential order of civilised society reposes. After the *coup d'état* of the 2d December, against which it became my duty to protest, as I have done, I awaited the judgment of the people appealed to by you. After that solemn judgment I adhered frankly to the immense powers which were the result of that appeal, considering them as the strongest guarantee that could be presented to preserve or re-establish those principles which a wild Socialism had endangered and menaced; and, as a public functionary, my co-operation was loyally given to you. But at the present moment, and on a question of civil right, and of private rights, of natural equity, and of all Christian notions of what is just and unjust, and which I cherish in my soul for more than fifty years as *jurisconsulte* and as magistrate, I feel myself absolutely called on to resign my functions of Procureur-General.

Be pleased, Prince, to accept the expression of my sentiments and respectful consideration.

DEPIN.

In the early part of the week the uneasiness of the public mind was so great, in consequence of what all classes concurred in regarding as an attack upon private property, very Communist in its character, that the *Moniteur* published the following notice to allay any further apprehensions:—

The Government cannot refute all the rumours which malevolence does not cease to circulate. The rigorous measures which have been imposed by necessity have naturally made an impression on public opinion, which every day supposes that the Government will be obliged to take new and more severe measures. The state of the country is far from justifying such fears. Without in any way abandoning the necessary firmness against the enemies of order, the Government will have no occasion for the future for exceptional measures, and the normal action of the political bodies, of which the organisation is advancing rapidly, will suffice to consolidate the work of the 2d of December.

The week has been fruitful in organic laws. On Monday the *Moniteur* published the organic decree on the Council of State, which is divided into ten sections. M. Baroche is appointed Vice-President, and is to preside in the absence of the President of the Republic; M. Maillard is named President of Committees of Debate; M. Rouher, of Legislation, Justice, and Foreign Affairs; M. Delangle, of the Interior, Public Instruction, and Public Worship; M. Parieu, Finances; M. Magne, Public Works, &c.; Admiral Leblanc, Military and Admiralty. There are in all 34 Councillors of State, MM. Boulay de la Meurthe, de Thoiry, Waisse, and Luin included. There are to be 20 Masters of Requests of the first class, and 20 of the second; 16 Auditors of the first class, and 15 of the second. The salaries of the members of the Council of State are to be as follows:—The Vice-President receives a sum of 80,000f.; Presidents of sections, each 35,000f.; the Councillors of State, 25,000f.; Masters of Requests of the first class, 10,000f.; Master of Requests of the second class, 6,000f.; Auditors of the first class, 2,000f.; the Secretary-General of the Council, 15,000f.; the Auditors of second class receive no salary.

On Tuesday the constitution of the Senate was promulgated. Its members are 72 in number, and include the following names:—

General Achard, ex-member of the Legislative Assembly; Count d'Argout, formerly Minister of Finance, Governor of the Bank of France; the Marquis d'Audiffret, President of the Court of Accounts; General de Bar, ex-member of the Legislative Assembly; General Baraguay d'Hilliers, formerly ambassador, ex-member of the Legislative Assembly; M. de Beaumont (de la Somme), ex-member of the Legislative Assembly; Prince de Beauveau, ex-peer of France; the Marquis de Beaubien, formerly first president of the Court of Appeal at Lyons; M. Charles Berthier, Prince de Wagram; M. Boulay (de la Meurthe), ex-Vice-President of the Republic; Count de Breteuil, ex-peer of France; M. de Cambacères, sen., ex-peer of France; Count de Castellane, General-in-Chief of the army of Lyons; Admiral Cacy, member of the Council of Admiralty; Count de Caumont-Laforce; M. François Clary; the Marquis de Croÿ; Baron de Crouseilles, formerly Minister of Public Instruction, ex-member of the Legislative Assembly; Count Curial, ex-member of the Legislative Assembly; M. Drouyn de Lhuys, formerly Minister of Foreign Affairs, ex-member of the Legislative Assembly; M. Dumas, formerly Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, member of the Institute; M. Charles Dupin, member of the Institute, ex-member of the Legislative Assembly; General Count d'Hautpoul, formerly Minister of War, ex-member of the Legislative Assembly; Admiral Hugon; General Husson, ex-member of the Legislative Assembly; M. Lacrosse, formerly Minister of Public Works, ex-member of the Legislative Assembly; General de la Hitte, formerly Minister of Foreign Affairs, president of the Committee of Artillery; General Count de Lawostine, Commander-in-Chief of the National Guard of Paris.

Besides the seventy-two senators named, all marshals of France and cardinals, who are Frenchmen, and members of the episcopal bench in France, are *ex-officio* senators. The list published contains 18 generals, 3 vice-admirals, 14 ex-ministers, and 5 judges; the rest are ex-peers of France and ex-representatives. It is remarked, however, that among them there is not one who has rendered himself illustrious as a statesman, or whose name would be naturally looked for in such a body. The list of senators includes, however, the name of M. Thibaudau, "ex-Councillor of State of the Empire." This M. Thibaudau is one of the Conventionists of the Great Revolution, and is the last, or nearly the last, survivor of the regicides. He voted for the death of Louis XVI.

The officers of the Senate are as follows. Their names were made known on Thursday; viz. Prince Jerome Bonaparte, Field-Marshal of France, President of the Senate; M. Meynard, Senator, First Vice-President; Vice-Presidents, MM. Drouyn de Lhuys, Troplong, and General Baraguay d'Hilliers; General d'Hautpoul, Grand Referendary; M. Lacrosse, Secretary; MM. Maillard, Rouher, Delangle, Magne, Admiral Leblanc, M. de Parieu are appointed Presidents of the six sections of the Council.

The Consultative Commission has been dissolved.

The *Courrier de Marseille* announces the arrival in that city of M. Antoine Bonaparte, en route for Italy, where he is charged with a special mission by the Government of Prince Louis Napoleon.

A party of the political prisoners in the prisons of Bordeaux were embarked on board a steamer on Sunday last, and taken to Blaye, where they will be joined by a band which has been brought from Agen. Those who have now left Bordeaux are about fifty in number, and are principally agricultural labourers from the department of the Lot et Garonne. Among them are also an *avocat*, a landowner who is said to be rich, a *huissier*, and a prisoner.

The *Messenger des Chambres* of Brussels contradicts a report that MM. de Girardin, Scholcher, Versigny, and Bancel were about to publish there a journal, called the *Bien-Etre Universel*, which had existed for some time in Paris, and that M. Victor Hugo and Madame de Dudevant (Georges Sand) were to be the principal editors.

UNITED STATES.

Intelligence from New York, dated the 17th inst., announces a diplomatic misunderstanding between the Austrian Minister at Washington and the Honourable Mr. Webster, one of the Secretaries of State. The former gentleman had taken exception to the tone and sentiments conveyed in Mr. Webster's speech at the congressional banquet to Kossuth, and had considered it necessary to remonstrate to the President of the United States on the subject. Mr. Webster's reply had not yet made its appearance; but it was generally supposed that the Austrian diplomatist, Chevalier Hulseimann, would be handed his passports.

Kossuth had left Washington for the western states, and arrived at the capital of Pennsylvania, where he was received with immense applause.

A despatch received by Mr. Secretary Webster from Mr. Lawrence, the United States Minister at the British Court, contradicts the report that Lord Palmerston had communicated with the American Government regarding the firing into the *Prometheus* by the brig of war *Express*; but states that he had laid the letter of Mr. Webster upon the subject before Lord Palmerston, who had not had time, however, to give it his attention before surrendering the seals of office to his successor, Mr. Lawrence adds, that he has received assurances from Lord Granville of his most friendly disposition, and that the subject in question would receive his prompt attention. The despatch also states that the private claims of American citizens before the Foreign-office would receive the early attention of the British Government.

A bill having for its object to facilitate the establishment of a line of steam-vessels between New York and the west coast of Ireland has been laid before Congress.

The general features of the miscellaneous news in the New York papers are eminently characteristic—violent snow-storms, steamer explosions, out-of-the-way methods of murder, loss of life from false alarm of fire, destructive hurricanes, intense cold in all quarters, navigation stopped by ice, &c. From the details of those respective disasters we learn that thirteen persons were killed, and several others wounded, by the explosion of the steamer *Magnolia*, near Darien, Ga.; that a girl named Sarah Gerber was convicted, in Philadelphia, of having caused the death of an infant, by compelling it to swallow pins and needles; the prisoner, who is only thirteen years of age, was found guilty of murder in the second degree, and will be sent to the Penitentiary; that the false alarm of fire was in an emigrants' home at New York, and that the number of lives lost in the rush to escape was six, while several were wounded and crushed severely; and with respect to the weather, that the snow-storms had been experienced at the very remote points from each other of Buffalo and New Orleans; while the whole state of Louisiana had been visited by a hurricane, which did immense damage to life and property. The Hudson river is closed with ice, and the railroad between New York and Albany is doing an enormous traffic. Lola Montes has written a vindication of her life and character.

From California there are advices to the 16th of December. The news from the mines is favourable. Two arrivals of gold dust, one amounting to 500,000 dollars, the other to 1,400,000 dollars, had been announced at New York from San Francisco. Governor McDougall had issued a proclamation ordering a military expedition against the Indians.

From Central America it is announced that Munoz was still at liberty in Nicaragua, and that Caravajal had met with some repulses in Mexico, but no positive defeats.

We have news from Jamaica, by this arrival, to the 7th inst. The cholera prevails to a fatal extent at Savannah la Mar; one or two cases also had occurred at Kingston.

INDIA.

Intelligence to the 3d inst. has been received this week by electric telegraph, in anticipation of the overland mail, from Bombay. It is to the following effect:—

Dost Mohammed's health is re-established.

Sir C. Campbell's forces had not yet returned. Some skirmishing had taken place, and one affair with cavalry near Derra Gazer Khan. Troops of Upper Scinde were going to Keypoor, and a reserve was forming at Hyderabad.

The Nizam had only paid £90,000 on account of the £400,000 due, and cannot procure a greater sum. His domains were in a state of anarchy, as also those of Oude.

A naval force had been collected at Rangoon.

ACADEMY OF SCIENCES IN PARIS.—Lord Brougham on Monday read at the Academy, before a most crowded auditory, a paper on the optical and mathematical inquiries which have occupied his time during his late residence at Cannes. His Lordship accompanied the reading of this memoir with numerous demonstrations on the board, and for upwards of an hour occupied the attention of his hearers. MM. Arago, Biot, and Tenard, and other eminent scientific men, were present, and appeared deeply interested in the explanations of their learned *confrère*.

M. THIERS AND THE PRINCE PRESIDENT.—Some of our contemporaries have published the following, but we do not vouch for its accuracy:—"M. Thiers having applied to be allowed to return to France, offering to abstain from politics, 'Give me the fourth volume of the History of the Revolution,' by M. Thiers," said the President of the Republic. On the book being brought, he pointed to a passage in which M. Thiers reproaches the Emperor for not having expelled from France, as a measure of necessity, several of his political adversaries. 'Copy that,' said Louis Napoleon, 'and send it to him as an answer to his application.'"

THE PROPERTY OF THE HOUSE OF ORLEANS.

The decree of the President of the French Republic, which arbitrarily strips the Orleans family of a large portion of its fortune, will not fail to arouse the indignation of every honest mind. This act of spoliation, from which the Provisional Government of 1848 had shrunk, even in moments of the greatest financial embarrassment, has just been consummated by a power which affected to make a stand against rampant Socialism, and to be the firmest supporter of social rights and of property. As to the true motives which have prompted the wicked notion to dispossess the Princes of Orleans of a portion of their patrimony, nobody will be deceived: there can be no illusion as to the considerations of public interest on which the decree is based; and everybody can read them clearly, despite the tissue of sophisms by which it is sought to justify a fact which one feels must be only prompted by resentment and personal apprehension. Let us broadly declare that the decree will remain a monument of the most monstrous iniquity, and of an abuse of authority which has no parallel except in the bad epoch of 1792; that is to say, at a period when the most sacred laws of society could be violated with impunity.

During the reign of Louis Philippe, the unquestionably very considerable fortune of the Orleans family was much exaggerated, and this exaggeration exactly suited the purpose of those who reproached the deceased Monarch with parsimony. It will be easy to prove this by the estimate which we are about to submit of the property of the House of Orleans, and to show how chimerical, or at least ill-founded, are the fears which the President of the French Republic appears to entertain as to the influence which the possession of estates can give to the exiled Princes, mistakenly valued at 300,000,000 francs (£12,000,000).

During the reign of Louis Philippe his revenues were thus fixed:—

	Francs.
Civil List	12,000,000
Estates of the Crown—comprising the Louvre, the Tuileries, Versailles, Fontainebleau, Compiègne, St. Cloud, Meudon, St. Germain, the Forest of Sénart, of Bricon, of St. Germain, &c., of which the rents are valued at	3,500,000
Appanage of the House of Orleans (lands set apart for the maintenance of younger children), the benefit of which had been left to the King, and which was valued at 100,000,000 francs, yielding a net rental of	2,500,000
Private property (<i>domaine privé</i>) of the King, castles, lands, forests, and valued at the sum of 104,000,000 francs, a rental of	3,000,000
Shares, Stocks, and all employed money, valued at	90,000,000
yielding an income of	4,000,000
Giving a total of £1,000,000 sterling, or	25,000,000

We have given the general income, in order to show that it is not on a rental, relatively so small, that Louis Philippe—after having paid the household expenses of his family, the state outlay to keep up the proper dignity of royalty, and all the charges which fell on him, to keep up the royal residences, the museum, and royal manufactures, such as those of Sevres, the Gobelins (tapestry), and Beauvais, which produce nothing—could make savings, as has been so often asserted from pure malevolence.

When Louis Philippe ascended the throne, he made a gift to his children of his patrimonial property. The ancient French law prescribed that all the estates of the person called to the throne became incorporated with the domain of the State; but it must be remarked that it is not by virtue of this law that Louis Philippe was called upon to reign, but by virtue of a new law, sprung from a revolution. Consequently, the dispositions of the old law could not be in any manner applied to him. Moreover, a later law had sanctioned, at the date of March 23, 1832, the use which the King had made of his personal fortune, and reserved to him the property thereof, under conditions specified in the donation made to his children, and according to the terms of which he kept for himself only the enjoyment of the profits (usufruct), the original property in which he abandoned to the Princes his sons.

The decree of which we have spoken strikes at the distribution of that donation, which it annuls somewhat too late as we have shown, inasmuch as it received the sanction of a law, and that it is, in fact, in some degree protected by its antiquity. The decree disputes the validity of the donation in the name of the interests of the nation which consented to it by the representatives at another epoch, and represents it as fraudulent. We have indicated that it was authorised by legislative enactment. We would add, that it is an insult to equity and common sense to invoke a law of state, in order to rob the Princes of Orleans which is not applicable to them, because having been passed under the sway of the principle of hereditary monarchy it could not even admit a new right contrary to its principle, the right of Louis Philippe to reign. It is, then, to the private domain of the former King that the decree applies, for, as to the estates which formed the ancient appanage of the House of Orleans, they have followed the lot of those which composed the dotation of the Crown: they have returned to the State. We will give here a statement of this particular property.

The real estates of the private domain consist in the residences of Neuilly, of Eu, of Bizy, of La Ferté-Vidame, and of Dreux. Besides the farms and lands attached to these châteaux, Louis Philippe possessed, by his patrimonial title, in all about 430,000 acres of forest, in the following departments:—Ardennes, Eure, Eure-et-Loire, Haute-Marne, Indre-et-Loire, Loire-et-Cher, Loiret, Manche, Seine, Seine Inférieure, Seine-et-Oise, and Somme. The value of these altogether is estimated at the sum of 104,000,000 francs, to which must be added, as we have already stated, 90,000,000 in capital or shares of the canals of Loing and of Orleans. The furniture and objects of art having belonged to the family of Orleans, and of which the greatest part is now sold, may represent about 1,000,000 francs, on account of the depreciation which this property suffered from the forced sales which were made of it. Thus, for the private property, a total sum of 195,000,000, or nearly £8,000,000. The entire fortune of Louis Philippe having been placed under sequestration, has remained in the hands of the French Government; but the sum we have indicated does not represent, by a great deal, the exact amount of the real property of the late King. Nearly 40,000,000 of admitted debts must be deducted from it, and which are guaranteed by the private property, which reduces it, first, to the sum of 155,000,000; and it is necessary to observe, next, that the estimates we have given were made at a time when landed property had a greater value than it has now in France. According to the scale of depreciation, which has been observed, it is not too much to affirm that the private domain does not represent, in reality, at this moment, a much higher value than 100,000,000, or £4,000,000 sterling.

This fortune, divided amongst the children of the ex-King, with the exception of the Count of Paris, who is excluded as the son of the Duke of Orleans, the eldest of the family, from the donation, would give to each of the children a fortune of nearly 15,000,000 to 16,000,000 francs; and it is consequently a like sum that each of the Princes of Orleans loses through the President's decree. The personal fortune of the members of the Royal family will be remarkably reduced by the confiscation. It is known, in fact, that, with the exception of the Duc d'Aumale, who has alone inherited immense property from the Prince of Condé, the income of which is 4,000,000 francs, there remains to the other children of Louis Philippe only the fortune of their aunt, the late Mdme. Adelaide, amounting to 90,000,000 francs, yielding a rental of scarcely 4,000,000. It is the property coming from that succession which a second decree of the President prescribes to the Princes to sell within a year.

Let us remark, in conclusion, to show the inconsistency of the decree which denies the Princes of Orleans of the possession of a private domain, that a Senatus-consulte of the year 10 of the Republic had admitted in favour of the Emperor Napoleon the formation of a private domain, besides an extraordinary domain composed of the property taken in the war, which amounted to 1,200,000,000 francs, and which was left at the Emperor's disposal.

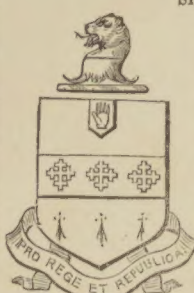
In respect to the sense of feeling and delicacy of the decree, it will suffice to call to mind, that in 1847 Louis Philippe gave orders to his Ministers to demand from the Chambers an annual credit of 150,000 francs, to constitute a pension for Prince Jerome, formerly King of Westphalia, and uncle of the President, to revert in part to his son Jerome Napoleon. More than this, the personal munificence of the King had already protected another Bonaparte. A young member of the Emperor's family travelling in Belgium, away from his friends, being pressed by his creditors and on the point of being incarcerated for debt, having made known to Louis Philippe his embarrassments, the Royal Treasury soon saved the liberty of the nephew of the Emperor.

EMIGRATION FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM.—A Parliamentary paper, printed on Wednesday, contains a return of the total number of persons who have emigrated from the United Kingdom to British possessions or to foreign countries from 1846 to 1850 inclusive. It appears that the total number of emigrants during the five years was 1,216,557. Of these, 53,434 were despatched by the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, leaving 1,163,123 as the number who have actually emigrated at their own expense. The number of adults who embarked from Deptford was 22,690; and from Plymouth, 29,338. The expense of conveying emigrants sent for embarkation from London within the same period amounted to £8634 14s. 4d., and from London to Plymouth £52 1s. 6d.

DEATH OF AN ECCENTRIC LITERARY CHARACTER.—On Wednesday an inquest was held at Camberwell on the body of Mr. Richard Alfred Davenport, aged 75, author of histories of America and India, and several poems. On Sunday, about four o'clock, the attention of police-constable Dwyer was attracted by low moans issuing from Brunswick Cottage, Park-street, Camberwell (the residence of the deceased). He knocked at the door, but could obtain no answer, and he, therefore, broke into the front parlour, and found the deceased lying in the passage nearly dead, with a bottle that had contained laudanum in his hand. A surgeon was sent for, but a few minutes after his arrival the deceased expired. Several bottles were found in his bed-room containing laudanum, of which he was in the constant habit of taking large quantities while writing. Upon the jury going to view the body, the house presented a most extraordinary appearance—the rooms were literally crammed with books, manuscripts, pictures, ancient coins, and antiques of various descriptions. The deceased had resided in the house for upwards of eleven years, during which time it had never been cleansed; and the books, beds, and furniture were rapidly decaying, everything being covered with dust. The windows of the house (of which the deceased was the freeholder) were all broken, the whole place presenting a most dilapidated appearance. Verdict—"That the deceased died from inadvertently taking an overdose of opium."

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS RECENTLY DECEASED.

SIR JOHN DEAN PAUL, BART.



This venerable Baronet died at his seat, the Hill House, Stroud, on the 16th inst., in the 77th year of his age. Sir John was elder son of the late John Paul, M.D., of Salisbury, by Frances his wife, daughter of John Snow, Esq., of Hendon, banker in London; and grandson of Dean Paul, Esq., brother of Sir Onesiphorus Paul, Bart., of Rodborough, county of Gloucester. He was himself created a Baronet 3d Sept., 1821.

He married, first, 2d April, 1799, Frances Eleanor, daughter of John Simpson, Esq., of Bradley Hall, Durham, by Anne his wife, daughter of Thomas, eighth Earl of Strathmore; secondly, in 1835, Mary, widow of Berkeley Napier, Esq., of Pennard House, county Somerset; and, thirdly, in 1844, Elizabeth, youngest daughter of Dr. Horsley, Bishop of St. Asaph. By his first wife only had he issue: by her, who died 15th April, 1833, he leaves three sons and four daughters. Of the former, the eldest is now Sir John Dean Paul, second Baronet: he has been twice married, and has issue. Of the daughters, the youngest, Jane, is the wife of Edward Fox Fitzgerald, Esq., only son of the late amiable and ill-fated Lord Edward Fitzgerald.

SIR WILLIAM OGLANDER, BART.

The death of this gentleman occurred on the 17th inst. The family of Oglander has been established at Nunwell, Isle of Wight, ever since the Norman Conquest. Their Dorsetshire seat of Parham was acquired by the marriage, in 1699, of Sir William Oglander, third Baronet, of Nunwell, with Elizabeth, daughter and sole heir of Sir John Strode. The sixth Baronet, the gentleman whose death we record, was born 13th Sept., 1769, and married, 24th May, 1810, Maria Ann, eldest daughter of George Henry Duke of Grafton, by whom he had two sons and one daughter. Of the former, the elder and only survivor, the present Sir Henry Oglander, Bart., was born 24th June, 1811, and is married to Louisa, youngest daughter of the late Sir George William Leeds, Bart.

ARCHDEACON BERNERS.

The Venerable HENRY DENNY BERNERS, of Woolverstone Park, county of Suffolk, representative of the ancient family of Berners, one of Norman origin, was the second son of Charles Berners, Esq., by his wife Katherine, daughter of John Laroche, Esq., of Egham, M.P. for Bodmin, and was born in 1769. Having entered into holy orders he became Archdeacon of Suffolk, and was most popular in that county from his private and public worth. To his numerous tenantry in Woolverstone, Erwardon, and Harkstead, and to the poor in general, the Archdeacon's kindness and liberality were unbounded. As an instance of the charity of his nature, it may be mentioned it was his custom to allow his labourers never less than ten shillings a week; they lived rent-free, and had all the small wood they needed, were frequently supplied with coals, and, whenever sickness invaded them, had only to apply to their benevolent master to be relieved as far as his aid could mitigate their sufferings. The Venerable Archdeacon succeeded to the family estates at the decease of his eldest brother, Charles Berners, Esq., who died unmarried the 19th August, 1831. Archdeacon Berners had married, in 1799, Sarah, daughter of John Jarrett, Esq., of Freemantle, Hants, and by her he leaves three sons, of whom the second, Hugh, is a Captain in the Royal Navy, and the third, Ralph, is in holy orders, and rector of Harkstead, Suffolk. The eldest, John, is the Archdeacon's successor; he married, in 1832, Henrietta, daughter of the Rev. Joshua Rowley, rector of Bergholt, Suffolk, and niece of the late Sir William Rowley, Bart. The Venerable Archdeacon Berners, to the deep regret of all who knew him, and especially of all who lived near or under him, died, after a few days' illness, on the 25th instant, at his seat, Woolverstone Park. The Archdeacon was in the commission of the peace for Suffolk. His youngest brother, who died in 1841, was the eminent London banker, William Berners, Berners-street, Oxford-street, takes his name, as part of their property, from the family of Berners.

FREDERICK RICCI.

This Italian composer, who was rising into reputation, was the brother of Louis Ricci, the well-known composer of "A Unavventura di Scaramuccia," and many other comic operas. The recent death of Frederick Ricci, in the flower of his age and talent, was of a melancholy nature: he was struck with a fatal blow of apoplexy while travelling in a postchaise from Warsaw to St. Petersburg.

GENERAL SIR LEWIS GRANT, K.C.H.

This gallant officer entered the British army as an ensign in the 95th Foot; he served under Sir Ralph Abercromby at St. Vincent, and was for some time actively employed in Martinico, Barbadoes, and other West India colonies. In 1829 he was appointed Governor of the Bahama Islands, and knighted in 1831. He became a Lieutenant-General in 1837, and obtained the colonelcy of the 96th Foot in 1839. Sir Lewis Grant died suddenly on the 26th inst., of a disease of the heart, whilst journeying in an omnibus towards his residence, 31, Harley-street, Cavendish-square. He was at the time in his 71st year.

LORD LOUGHBOROUGH.

JAMES ALEXANDER GEORGE, Lord Loughborough, was the eldest son of James Alexander, present Earl of Roslyn, by his wife Frances, daughter of the late Lieutenant-General Wemyss, of Wemyss. He was born the 10th May, 1830. Lord Loughborough, who was an officer of the 2d Life Guards, died of fever on the 28th ult., on board the schooner *Mary Elizabeth*, whilst that vessel was entering the port of New Orleans on its way from the Havannah. As his Lordship was never married, his younger and only brother, Robert Francis, becomes Lord Loughborough, and heir apparent of the Earldom.

BARON OSTEN.

This gentleman, a member of the family of Von der Osten, of high military and judicial fame in Hanover, earned his early laurels in the British service. He was first in King George III.'s German Legion, and afterwards in the 16th Lancers; he was in the Peninsular campaigns, and at the battle of Waterloo. He had a Waterloo medal, and also a silver medal of seven clasps for having shared in seven victories in Spain. He retired from the British army in 1834. The gallant Baron, who was a general in the Hanoverian service, died suddenly on the 24th inst., whilst on a visit at Lord Scarborough's.

GEORGE WILBRAHAM, ESQ., OF DELAMERE HOUSE, COUNTY CHESTER.

This gentleman, the representative of the ancient and eminent Cheshire family of Wilbraham, died on the 24th inst., aged 72. He formerly sat in Parliament for Stockbridge, from 1826 to 1830, and subsequently became knight of the shire for the county of Chester. In politics his vote was with the Whigs. His immediate ancestors, known as the Wilbrahams of Nantwich, sprang from Randolph, second son of Thomas Wilburgham, Lord of Radnor, by Margaret his wife, daughter and heir of John Golborne, Lord of Woodhey, in Cheshire; and were possessed of considerable estates in the Palatinate. At the Restoration, George Wilbraham, of Nantwich, was one of the intended Knights of the Royal Oak, his landed property being then valued at £1000 per annum, a very large sum for that period. The gentleman whose death we record was son and heir (by Maria his wife, daughter of William Harvey, Esq., of Chigwell, M.P. for Essex) of the late George Wilbraham, Esq., of Nantwich, High Sheriff of Cheshire in 1791, who removed his abode to Delamere House, an elegant stone mansion erected from the designs of Wyatt.

He married, 3d September, 1814, Lady Anne Fortescue, third daughter of Hugh Earl Fortescue, and leaves several sons, the eldest, George Fortescue Wilbraham, Esq., being now of Delamere House.

Edward Eootie-Wilbraham, Lord Skelmersdale, is the representative of a junior branch of the Nantwich family.

MR. GEORGE HERBERT RODWELL.

This amiable and clever composer and writer was member of a family long connected with the stage. He began life under very favourable auspices, and at one time possessed considerable property. He was formerly part proprietor of the Adelphi Theatre, and for many years was musical director and composer of that establishment. His opera of "Valmonde" was produced at the Adelphi; and he also wrote the music of the "Pilot," the "Flying Dutchman," "Jack Sheppard," and many other popular pieces. His opera, the "Bottle Imp," had much success at the Lyceum and Covent-garden Theatres. His opera of the "Lord of the Isles," brought out at the Surrey Theatre, contained some beautiful melody. Mr. Rodwell was an author as well as a composer. He wrote the farce of "Teddy the Tiler," for Power, in 1830, which had an extraordinary run. The "Chimney-piece," the "Pride of Birth," "Student of Lyons," "My Wife's Out," "Adèle," and other light afterpieces and some pantomimes were also his productions. He was subsequently musical director at Covent-garden and at Drury-lane Theatres. He wrote three novels, "London Bridge," "Memoirs of an Umbrella," and "Woman's Love." His last drama for the stage was the burlesque of "Azzel," at the Olympic Theatre. Some of Mr. Rodwell's detached ballads will live, such as "O charming May," "Let the toast be dear woman." Mr. Rodwell married a daughter of Liston, the celebrated comedian. The match proved very unfortunate, Mr. Rodwell having latterly to live separate, with his children. Other adversity, also undeserved, came upon him, which no doubt tended to shorten his life. He died on the 22d inst., at his residence in Upper Ebury-street, Piccadilly. His demise is much regretted by the many friends whom his kind disposition, agreeable manners, and worth had obtained for him. His name deserves to last upon the roll of English composers and musicians.

MR. WILLIAM CLEMENT.

[We have been favoured with the following memoir from an intimate friend of Mr. Clement, who, we regret to state, died suddenly, at Hackney, on Saturday last.

Of a man so long connected with the London press as Mr. William Clement, more than a mere notice in our Obituary is due. But of a great portion of his life there is little known; and even during the period of his greatest influence

as an extensive proprietor of newspapers, he occupied so small a space in the public eye, that few beyond those who were connected with him in the way of business could be said to possess his acquaintance.

His origin must have been humble. He seldom spoke of his outset in life, but it is believed he was born in the metropolis. When a young man, he must have been in Portugal, as he used sometimes to allude to his knowledge of Lisbon. Whether he followed any pursuit in the metropolis before becoming a news-vender, is not known. In that occupation, his industry and attention were rewarded with deserved success; and when he resigned his business to Mr. Smith, he was one of the most extensive news-venders in London. He first became a newspaper proprietor through the purchase of a share of the *Observer*, then owned by a gentleman connected with the Post-office. The *Observer* was at that time a comparatively obscure paper; but Mr. Clement soon succeeded in obtaining for it a large circulation. He organised an extensive corps of reporters, who for the most part had engagements also on the daily newspapers, so that he was enabled to give full accounts of all proceedings of interest which occurred on the Saturday on the following morning, and thus to anticipate the morning papers (who alone at that time gave reports) by a day. He was at the same time exceedingly attentive to whatever occupied the public attention; and his liberal scale of remuneration obtained for him the ready assistance of several distinguished writers, and among others that of the Rev. George Croly.

When the suspension of the Habeas Corpus Act, during the Liverpool and Castlereagh Ministry, drove the late William Cobbett to the United States, Mr. Clement made liberal advances to him to enable him to defray the expenses of his own removal, and maintain his family in London. For some time Cobbett's "Register" was published by Mr. Clement, to whom copy was transmitted from America. Though Mr. Clement was rather reserved in speaking of transactions with individuals, he used to complain of the usage he experienced from Mr. Cobbett.

The success of Mr. Clement in conducting the *Observer*, and the capital which he had thereby acquired, inspired him with the ambition of being at the head of a morning newspaper. Before the death of Mr. James Perry, so well known as the editor and proprietor of the *Morning Chronicle*, he had made several overtures for its purchase, which were declined by that gentleman. But the death of Mr. Perry, in the latter end of 1821, threw the paper into the market; and Mr. Clement soon afterwards acquired the property of it for the sum of £40,000, payable by instalments of £10,000. His capital was far from being equal to such an advance; and for the greater portion of the purchase-money he was obliged to raise funds by bills, which the credit of Sir John Key enabled him to negotiate. Through his bill transactions, he became involved with Messrs. Hurst and Robinson, by whose bankruptcy in the monetary crisis of 1825 he was an extensive sufferer. In the meantime he was, in addition to the *Morning Chronicle* and *Observer*, acquiring *Bell's Life in London*, which the talents and activity of Mr. Vincent Dowling made a first-rate sporting paper.

Mr. Clement, as may be supposed, had great trouble in fighting with the difficulties in which his bill transactions had involved him. The *Morning Chronicle*, more especially, suffered greatly from these difficulties. Mr. Perry had, during the last two or three years of his life, drawn a large income from it (upwards of £10,000 a year), by sacrificing its future prosperity. At that time the *Times* and *Morning Herald* were running a race of extravagant expenditure; while the *Chronicle* declined making the most necessary advances. Whether Mr. Clement, if he had not been financially crippled, could have succeeded in re-establishing the character of the *Chronicle*, may well be doubted. In liberality he was all that could possibly be wished for; but he had placed himself in a situation for which he was peculiarly unfitted. He knew nothing of the habits and feelings of the West-end world, and could ill conceive what such a world required in a daily newspaper. The circulation of a morning newspaper was far more confined at that time to the metropolis than it is now, since; railroads have opened the whole kingdom to them. As the conductor of a Sunday paper Mr. Clement was without a rival when he purchased the *Chronicle* but he failed to perceive that a very different system of management was required for a morning newspaper. The murder of Weare, for instance, was made the subject of interminable descriptions and large wood engravings in the *Chronicle*, which disgusted rather than gratified numbers of its readers, while to the multitude, who have only one day to devote to a paper, all the horrors of the tragedy in question could not be delineated too fully and forcibly.

By the aid of a banking firm, Mr. Clement was enabled to struggle on with the *Chronicle* till 1834, when he sold it to Mr. (now Sir John) Easthope for about a quarter of the sum he had paid for it. He retained the property of the two Sunday papers, which he continued to conduct with success.

Mr. Clement was not only a liberal, but a kind, warm-hearted man. His education had been, like his origin, humble. He was a good accountant, and could express himself clearly in a common business letter. In courage he was thoroughly an Englishman. His conduct in the famous case in which he was fined £500 for contempt, in publishing, before conclusion of the trial, a report of part of the proceedings after an interdict by the Court, furnishes a pregnant example of his spirit: he fought the case to the last, and thereby proved himself a true friend to the privileges of the press.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

BRADFORD.—Col. Thompson and Mr. Milligan addressed their constituency last Monday.

CARLOW.—Colonel Bruen is now convalescent, and hopes to be able to attend to his parliamentary duties in due course.

EAST KENT.—The intended retirement of Mr. Plumpton will occasion a vacancy in the eastern division of Kent. Sir Brooke Bridges and Sir Edward Dering are in the field, both Conservatives.

EAST SOMERSET.—Mr. Pinney's seat, it is announced, will be contested.

EXETER.—Sir Fitzroy Kelly issued his address to the electors last Monday, stating, that, having been invited by a large portion of the constituency, he had determined to offer himself as a candidate. He declares his sincere and unalterable attachment to the Church of England in all its purity and integrity; an attachment which he deems not incompatible with the universal religious liberty to which that Church is itself indebted for its stability. Upon the subject of the agricultural, commercial, and shipping interests he declares his conviction that, under the circumstances which now press themselves upon public attention, it has become the bounden duty of every legislator to lend his aid in Parliament to relieve the agricultural interest from the unduly oppressive burthens under which he says they have so long laboured.

GLASGOW.—An *on dit* on 'Change, that the late Secretary for Foreign Affairs has declined, in a letter to a registration agent in the city, to stand as a candidate for the representation of Glasgow, we believe, is incorrect. A communication has been received from the noble Viscount by a party in town, but it does not amount to a declination; on the contrary, Lord Palmerston expresses himself flattered by a proposition to be elected for Glasgow.

GREENWICH.—Admiral Dundas has issued his address, announcing his appointment to the Mediterranean command, resigning his seat, and thanking the electors for having four times returned him as member. Admiral Houston Stewart and Mr. Montague Chambers continue to be the only candidates.

HEREFORDSHIRE.—Mr. Wegg Prosser will not be again a candidate for the county. The Conservative party will support the Hon. C. S. Bateman Hanbury, a brother of Lord Bateman, and an officer in the 2d Life Guards, who has published his address to the electors. Mr. Cornwell Lewis has also sent a letter to his constituency.

LIVERPOOL.—The *Liverpool Mail* announces that the Constitutional Association have resolved to propose Sir Stratford Canning, who is shortly expected in England, at the next election, as member. Mr. Cardwell and Sir Thomas Birch, the sitting members, will be again in the field.

PORTSMOUTH.—It is understood that Lieutenant-General Lord Frederick Fitzclarence will be a candidate, on the Liberal interest. If Sir Francis Baring be not in office at the next election, it is believed that he will not again offer himself.

SHEFFIELD.—Mr. Roebuck, M.P., in his recent address to the electors, thus referred to universal suffrage:—"He did not think, whatever they might say, that the majority was always the wisest. He had rather a feeling to the contrary; and when he was in the majority he began to doubt if he was right. He might be wrong in that. Let them look back, and they would find that all the great truths that had affected the destinies of mankind had been at some period in the minority."

STIRLING.—The late Provost of the city of Glasgow, Sir James Anderson, will be proposed, at the next election, for his native place.

STOCKPORT.—The *Manchester Guardian* states that negotiations are in progress to return an influential manufacturer, a Conservative, in conjunction with Mr. Heald.

MUNIFICENT BEQUESTS.—By the will of Thomas Dickinson, Esq., late of Upper Holloway, the contingent reversionary interest of £12,000 (in addition to £1000 immediate) is bequeathed to the Governors' Benevolent Institution on the death of his daughter, Mrs. Henry F. Richardson. Mr. Dickinson has also bequeathed (all free of legacy duty) £4500 to the Animals' Friend Society, £1000 to the London Hospital, £1000 to the Indigent Blind School, £1000 to the London Orphan Asylum, £1000 to the Infant Orphan Asylum, £1000 to the Marine Society, £1000 to the National Benevolent Institution, £1000 to the Destitute Sailors' Home, £1000 to the Deaf and Dumb Asylum, £1000 to the Royal Free Hospital, £500 to the Holloway Dispensary, £500 to the Labourers' Friend Society; £4000 to Whitechapel parish, the interest to find twenty poor people with bread, potatoes, and coals who are constant attendants at Divine service; £4000, on similar conditions, to Holloway parish; £2000 to the Idiot Asylum, £1000 to the Fistula Society, £1000 to the Charing-cross Hospital. The legacies are of various amounts, not exceeding £20,000 to each relative, with various legacies of £10,000 and £3000 each to other branches, with £10,000 to his housekeeper. Mr. Dickinson was a merchant of eminence in Whitechapel, and a member of the court of the Drapers' Company, from whom he received a testimonial, which he has bequeathed to his daughter.

SPECIE FROM AUSTRALIA.—The vessel *Anna Mary*, arrived from Sydney, New South Wales, has brought 42 packages of specie, 3 boxes of dollars, and 410 packages of copper ore; the *Deucalion*, from Sydney, 424 packages of copper ore; and the vessel *Ralph Thompson*, from the same Australian port, 1 box of gold dust, consigned to eminent firms and to order.



KAFFIR QUEEN.—FROM AN ORIGINAL DRAWING.

KAFFIR QUEEN.

EVERY trait of the natives of Kaffraria is especially interesting at the present moment. This characteristic Portrait shows us one of the women of rank in Kaffraria, and affords a good specimen of the female costume. It is far from destitute of ornament: the lappets of the front of the dress, and the longest portion of the robe, being thick set with metal studs. The rings worn upon the wrists are also of metal. The upper portion of the head-dress and the band worn round the bust are white, with broad blue stripes. The necklace is of coral and dead-white beads; and the ear-drops are of the latter.

Mrs. Ward, in her entertaining "Five Years in Kaffirland," tells us that the Kaffir women carry their love of ornament to such an excess, that they have certain fancies relative to their beads, which have as much sway over the notions of the sable belles of Kaffirland as any fiat, or caprice, from the divan of a Parisian *modiste*, or the penetralia of a Mayfair beauty. One year the leathern bodice of a Tambookie bride is *parmented* with beads of a dead white; another season the T'Slambie girls will quarrel for a monopoly of bright blue, and the Gaikas set up an opposition in necklaces of mock garnet and amber. Birmingham buttons ornament the skin cloaks of the women of Kaffraria, and brass bangles from our manufactories conceal the symmetry of their arms, which are models for sculpture.

INSURRECTION IN CHILI.

VALPARAISO has lately been the scene of a sanguinary struggle to overthrow the constituted authorities, the result of which has been a complete victory on the side of the Government. The focus of the conflict was Daguerreotyped by Senor Helsby, has been lithographed with considerable spirit, and has supplied us with the accompanying Illustration. It shows the contest between the Government troops and the insurgents on the evening of October 28 (5.20 p.m.). The details, from the *Valparaiso Mercantile Reporter*, are as follow:—

On the 28th of October, two days after the sailing of the steamer for Europe, Valparaiso was alarmed by the information that one of the military barracks had been attacked and taken by a band of men, consisting of about three hundred of the lowest rabble congregated on the hills, main top, and similar places. They took possession of 500 muskets and three cannon, marched down to the Plaza, and placed their guns in different directions. Our worthy Governor, General Blanco, immediately placed himself at the head of about 180 men of Regiment No. 3, stationed here, and marched to the Plaza to attack the mob, which he found without a leader. This small number, but brave troops, with their old General to lead them, surrounded the Plaza from the different streets leading out of it, whilst the mob were firing their cannons and muskets, attempting to force an entrance into the city, which they intended to rob and plunder. The soldiers, however, stood like a wall, and advanced in spite of great superiority in

the number of the mob, and after a short fight the three cannons were in their possession, and the Plaza was cleared. The mob then ascended again to the quartel, and dispersed over the hills, firing down upon the Plaza and adjoining streets: the soldiers followed, and secured the barracks.

The greater part of the mob, intoxicated and without a leader, sought their safety in flight, and, though a great many chance shots were fired for an hour after, the battle was decided within half that period.

The fire of the mob was so badly directed, and so unaccustomed the greater part seemed to be in the use of firearms, that most of the balls either found their way into the balconies of the houses, or into the lower part of the legs of the soldiers.

It is difficult to state the number of killed and wounded on both sides; we are only able to ascertain it on the side of the soldiers, the mob having hidden their wounded, and buried their dead secretly. The Governor issued a decree demanding the delivery of muskets within twenty-four hours. The greater part were soon given up, and within a day or two peace and order were restored and maintained.

THE KAFFIR BUSH.

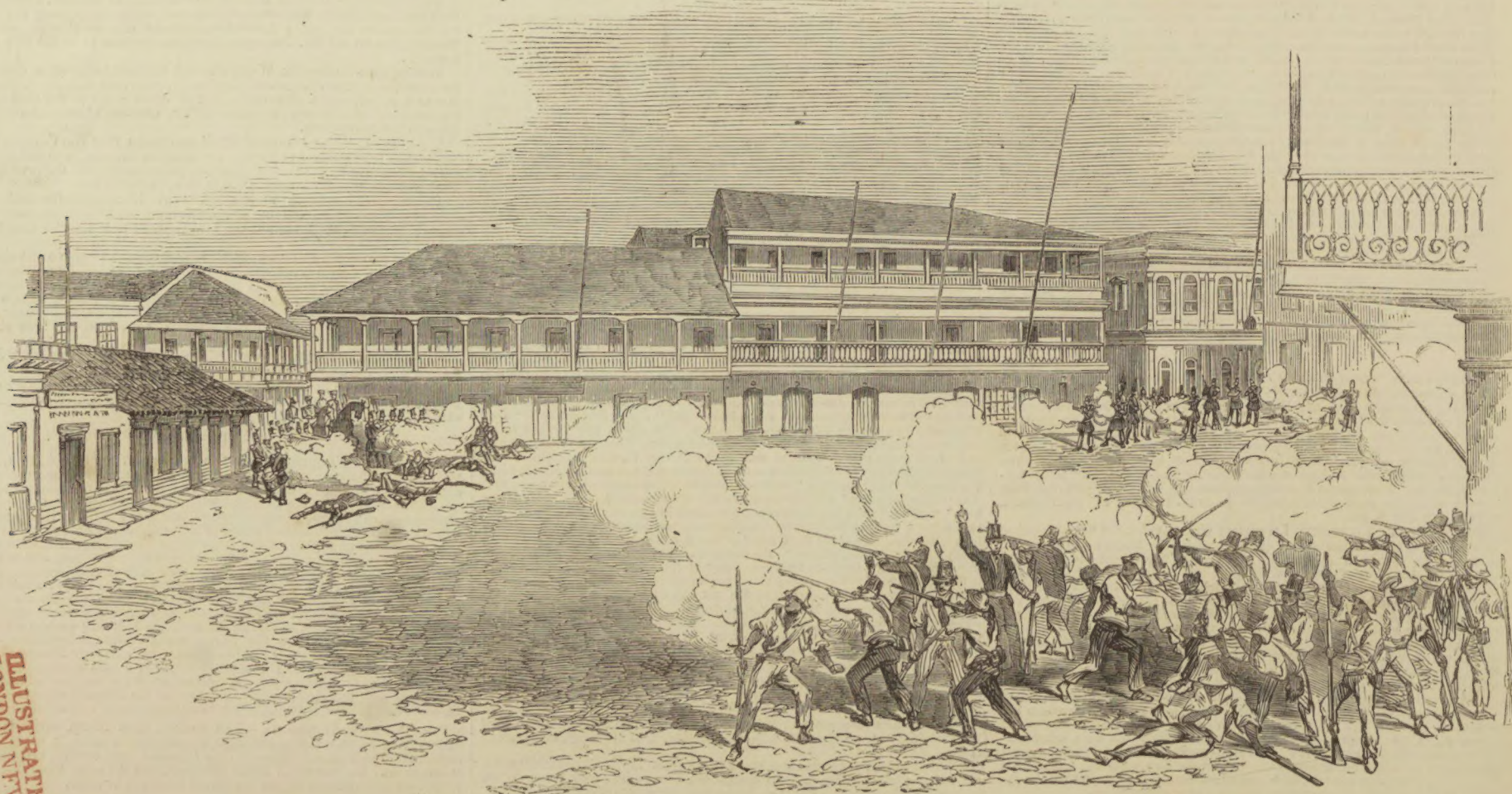
(*Acacia horrida*, Willdenow; *Acacia capensis*, Burstall.)

THIS specimen, lately presented to her Majesty the Queen and his Royal Highness Prince Albert at Osborne, was brought to England by S. W. Webb, Esq., surgeon of H. M. S. *Retribution*, from the Cape of Good Hope. This species is called by the Dutch boers the "Wait-a-bit," or "Kaffir Bush." It grows from six to twenty feet in height, chiefly near springs, ravines, &c.: it bears a small glebular yellow flower. The frontier, at present the scene of the Kaffir warfare, is thickly covered for several miles with this bush, presenting an impenetrable barrier to regular troops, and an excellent cover to the Kaffirs, who creep along the ground underneath it, from which it is impossible to dislodge them: several attempts to destroy the Bush by fire have been made, but without



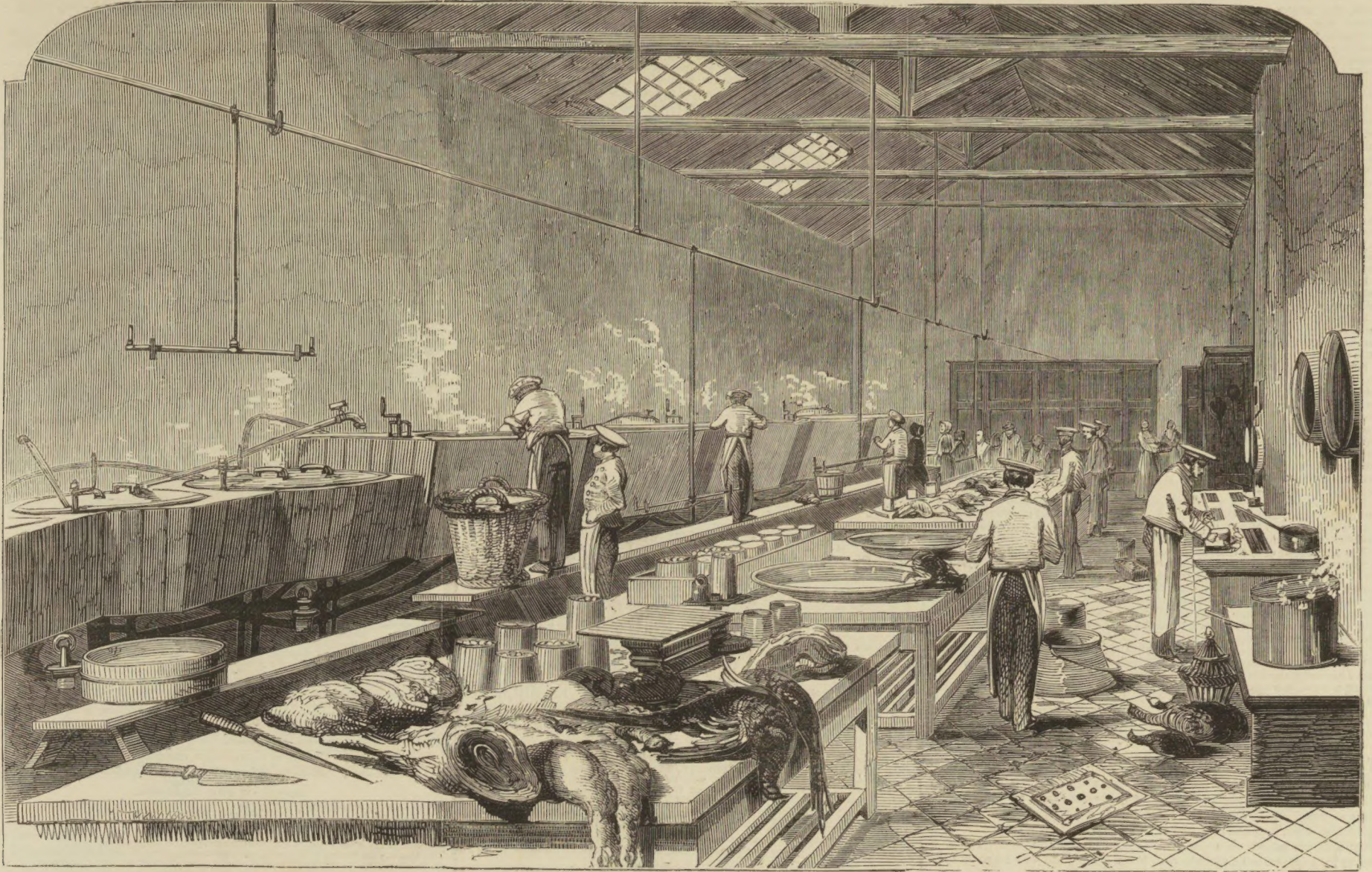
SPECIMEN OF THE KAFFIR BUSH.—(ACACIA HORRIDA.)

success, from its peculiarly succulent properties, and from its growing chiefly in moist places. It is also this natural means of defence which enables the Kaffirs to keep under cover so near Graham's Town with impunity.



INSURRECTION IN CHILI.—CONTEST BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT TROOPS AND THE INSURGENTS, IN THE PLAZA DE LA MUNICIPALIDAD, VALPARAISO.

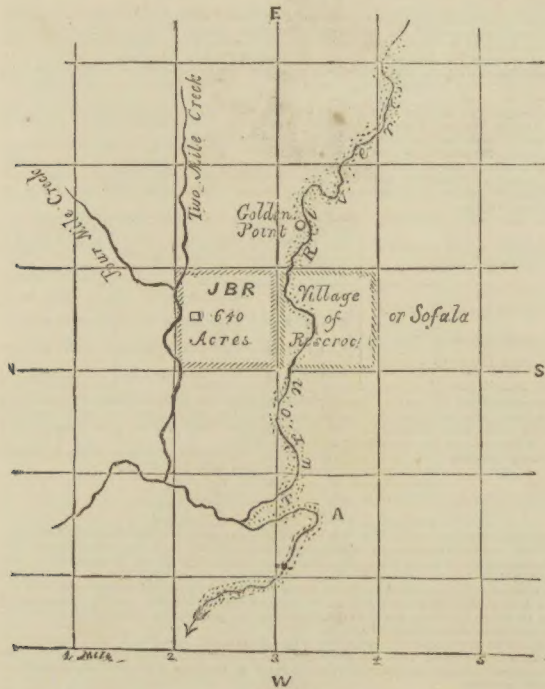




RITCHIE AND M'CALL'S PRESERVED MEAT ESTABLISHMENT, HOUNDSDITCH.—THE KITCHEN.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

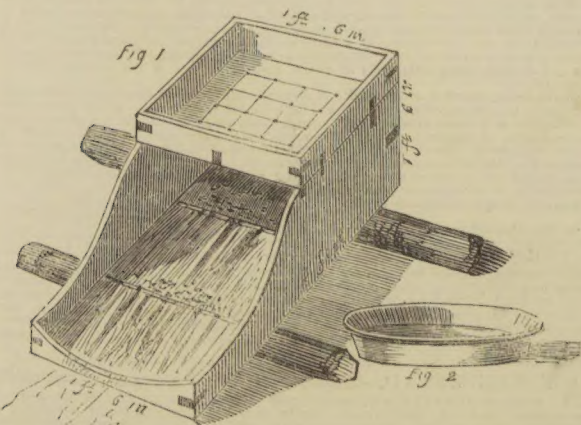
GOLD IN AUSTRALIA.

We have been favoured by a Correspondent with a letter just received from Taron River, dated August 25—the locality of the most recent discovery of gold in South Australia. The writer describes his visits to his sheep station at



THE BATHURST GOLD DISTRICT.

this place to have been unusually dull and lonely until within the preceding two months, in which the whole face of the country has become altered; "and in New South Wales, or, perhaps, in the world, there is not a busier spot than the banks of the Taron River, for a distance of from forty to fifty miles." He adds:—"My little farm here, which I purchased many years since, is situated about a mile and a half from the



GOLD-SEEKER'S CRADLE.

richest part of the river. I send you a Sketch, which will make the position clearer to you. By the time this reaches you the papers will, doubtless, have told you of the wonderful discovery of gold in this country. It was first found at a place about thirty-five miles west of Bathurst, and in less than a month

there were no fewer than 3000 persons here. Scarcely had they been settled there a month when my overseer and another went to the river, and there set to work, at the spot marked H, where they found about an ounce of gold by washing in a tin dish. Upon receipt of this information I joined them, and remained there two days. In less than a fortnight the neighbourhood was crowded with drays and carts of every description. This was about the last week in June, and now there are at least 5000 persons on the river. The small dots are intended to represent tents, some formed of sheets of bark, and others of canvas, in which the men with their wives were *rocking the cradles*, and in some cases the whole family were at work. No profession, trade, or calling seems to keep persons from the diggings; and Sydney, as well as most other towns in the colony, is left almost entirely to the women. For a time it had the effect of raising provisions to a fearful price.

"You will take it for granted that I am hard at work at the diggings; but such is not the case. The land on which this discovery has been made had been my sheep run ever since I have been in the colony; all the sections adjoining my purchases I have rented from the Government from year to year. If I find it will take up all my time and attention in looking after my sheep. I think I shall be better off for labour than many, and hope to be able to pick up some disappointed diggers; but how the large sheepholders at a distance will manage, remains to be seen.

"It must not be supposed that all who come to the diggings make fortunes: certainly, many have done well; but hundreds are disappointed. It is a strange life, and a hard one. We have had a great deal of rain lately, which has made the work more miserable; although a gold-washer must not mind a little wet, as he has to rock the cradle, and at the same time throw water in, which keeps him continually wet in the feet. The soil is taken in buckets, bags, or any other convenient way, from the banks of the river; a bucketful at a time is put into the sieve, and the man, while rocking with his left hand, dips the water with his right, and continues pouring it into the sieve till the earth is clear; and then, casting a longing eye into the sieve to see if there be a 'nugget' too large to go through the holes, he unships the sieve, and throws out the stones. Another bucketful is then taken up; and when from 50 to 60 sievefuls have been washed the rocker is cleared out, and what is deposited at the bottom is put into the washing-pan I have shown, when the gold, being heaviest, settles. Most of the gold found in the Taron is in small pieces; but there also are large ones. Since the hundredweight was discovered, about thirty-five miles hence, many seekers have gone there, and companies are forming to crush the quartz. I saw this gold weighed at our bank at Bathurst—a most wonderful sight.

"I have been a purchaser of gold for a house in Sydney, at from £3 3s. to £3 4s. 6d. per ounce, on commission; I get 2½ per cent. for any quantity. The extent of my purchase to this time has been 517 ounces in about a month.

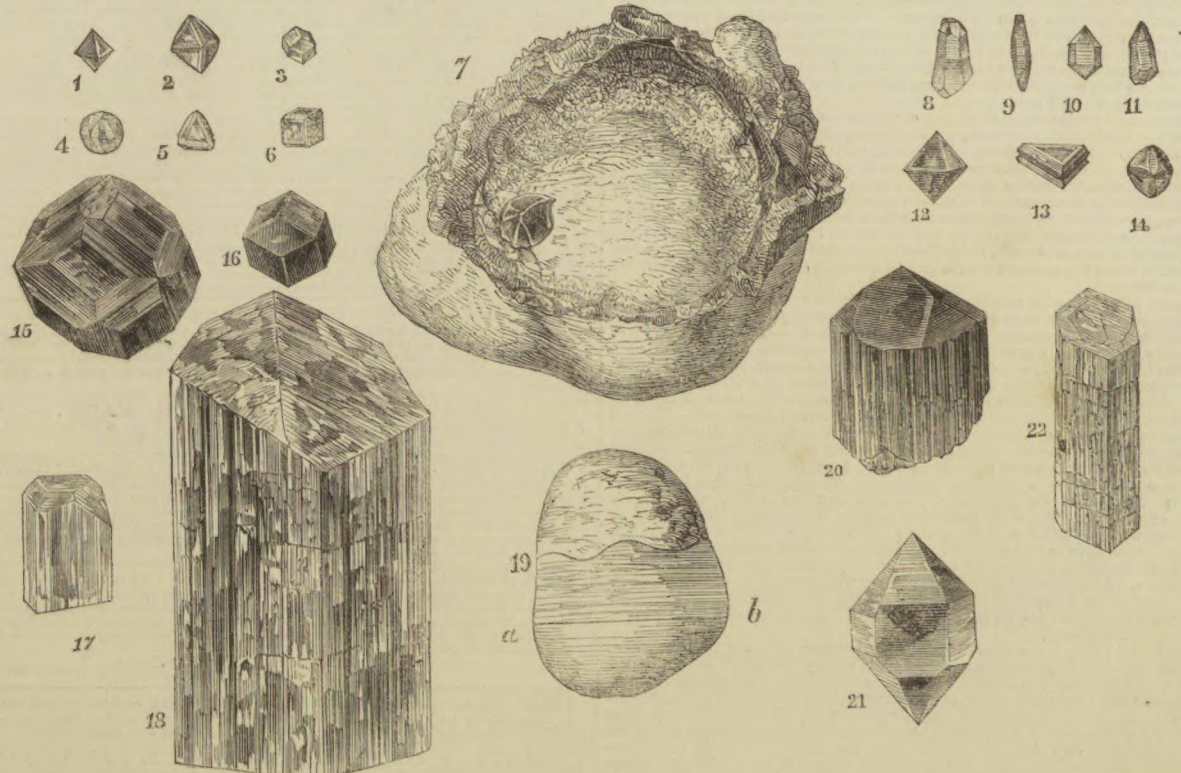
I bought from three men who came from the Hunter, and had worked twelve clear days, 72½ ounces, £233 13s. 5d. What will this discovery be thought of in England? We are all very anxious to hear. I look upon the transportation question as settled; the Home Government will never think of sending convicts to a gold country, unless they are mad."

The writer then describes the greatest art in the washing to be in cleansing what comes from the rocker into the pan; for the gold is not easily seen until it has been worked and shaken in the pan, taking care every time it is dipped into the water that it takes away some of the sand and the gravel without letting the fine gold escape with it.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

SIR,—I have long thought that the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS might become the means of directing the attention of gold-searchers to valuable gems often found with that metal, but possibly thrown aside owing to a non-acquaintance with their appearances in the natural state: I therefore send the following figures of the natural appearances of diamonds, corundum, spinel-ruby, garnet, topaz, tourmaline, beryl, and quartz.

The Diamond.—Figure 1 is an octohedron; Figure 2 an octohedron having six planes on the edges; Figure 3, dodecahedron with rhombic faces; Figures 4, 5, and 6 are rarer forms. Out of 1000 diamonds I have generally found about one of the form Fig. 6; about ten like Fig. 5; fifty like Fig. 4; and the remainder like 1, 2, 3, in about an equal proportion. With regard to the size and weight of diamonds, 500 out of 1000 which came in the same parcel were found smaller than Fig. 1, which is the exact size of a diamond weighing half a carat; 300 were of the size 3, 4, 5, and 6—none of these exceeded a carat in weight; eighty of the size 2 weighed a carat and a half; only one was as large as Fig. 16—this weighed 24 carats. The remainder varied from 2 to 20 carats, a carat being equal to three grains and one-sixth troy. Fig. 7 consists of a conglomerated mass of quartz pebbles rounded through having been water-worn, two crystals of diamond (one the size of a small pea, the other not larger than the head of a small pin), and various grains of gold; the whole cemented together by oxide of iron. This specimen is peculiarly interesting at the present time, as showing the association of diamonds with gold; it was brought by the late Mr. Mawe from the bed of a river in Brazil, and there is a reduced figure of it given in his "Treatise on Gems and Precious Stones," plate 2; and it is thus described:—"Casalho: siliceous pebbles, aggregated and enveloping diamonds." He sold it to the late Duke of Buckingham, and it came into my possession as part of the extensive collection which I bought at the Stowe sale in 1848. Mr. Mawe states that when diamonds were discovered in the Brazils they were used as counters in playing



1 to 7. Diamonds.—8 to 11. Corundum.—12 to 14. Spinel-Ruby.—15 and 16. Garnet.—17, 18, and 19. Topaz.—20. Tourmaline.—21. Quartz.—22. Beryl.

GEMS OFTEN FOUND WITH GOLD.

cards, the inhabitants being ignorant of their value until the arrival of an officer who had been in India, and who, being struck with their geometrical symmetry of form, took a quantity of them to Portugal, where their true nature became ascertained. I have recently been informed by two respectable persons from the Brazils, that in 1844 a slave was searching for gold in the bed of a river in the province of Bahia, and discovered diamonds. It being a new locality for diamonds, 297,000 carats were collected in two years, which produced upwards of £300,000. I see no reason why diamonds should not be found in Australia, Canada, California, as well as in those other gold districts from which they have hitherto been obtained. The value of the most inferior diamonds, unfit for jewellery, is £50 per ounce. Could they be found in sufficient abundance to be sold at £5 per ounce, the benefit to the arts would be incalculable. Not only would the seal-engraver, watchmaker, lapidary, glazier, &c., be able to procure them at easier prices, but numerous substances would be rendered useful which at present cannot be profitably worked owing to the high price of diamonds.

Figures 12 to 14 represent four crystals of *Corundum*. This substance is commonly found in six-sided prismatic crystals, and frequently terminated at each end by six-sided pyramids. When transparent, and of a blue colour, it is known in jewellery as the sapphire; when merely of a red colour, it is called Oriental ruby; and when this colour is of a rich depth, the stone is more valuable than even the diamond.

Figures 15 and 16. Crystals of *Garnet*.—These are chiefly found in the dodecahedron form; are occasionally of a beautiful red colour; when semi-transparent, are called by the jewellers "carbuncles." These are of comparatively little value.

Figures 17 and 18. Two rhombic prisms of *Topaz*.—It is found in rivers, frequently with all the edges and angles of the original crystal worn off, and presenting a round appearance, in which state it is often mistaken for the diamond, owing to the colour and specific gravity of each being the same. It may, however, easily be distinguished from it by the difference of the hardness and fracture, like Fig. 19. The diamond yields readily to mechanical division parallel to all the planes of the regular octohedron; the topaz only at right angles to the axis of the crystal indicated in Fig. 19 by the darkest straight line, with a smooth brilliant surface, as if polished by the lapidary; and slices of it may readily be separated parallel to the same dark line, each having the same brilliancy.

Fig. 20. *Tourmaline*.—A crystal having six sides, deeply striated in the longitudinal direction, and terminated by a three-sided pyramid; colour varying from black to brown and green. Transparent specimens are useful to the philosopher in experiments on polarised light.

Fig. 21. Crystal of transparent *Quartz*, or "Rock Crystal," frequently called a "diamond" in the mining districts, as "Bristol diamond," "Cornish diamond," &c. The crystal represented by this figure was brought from California by a person who refused £200 for it, under the impression that it was a real diamond, because it scratched glass and could not be scratched with a file. Its real value, however, is not more than 2s. 6d. The crystalline form would at once indicate the difference, and when broken the fracture would resemble the curved fracture of broken glass.

No. 52. *Beryl*, presents an hexagonal prism, and is usually of a green colour. I have refrained from giving any description of the chemical composition, relative hardness, specific gravity, and other characters of minerals, because I would not trespass upon your space, or give information which would be useful to the scientific reader only.

January 22, 1852. I remain yours, &c., JAS. TENNANT.

ter be known from a bad one. Of course, some little time after the preserving process has been concluded is necessary to develop this appearance, and hence it is far from a safe plan to purchase these preserved provisions immediately after they are prepared.

Supposing no such bulging out to be evident, but that, on the contrary, the sides of the canister are collapsed by the force of external atmospheric pressure, then may the case be pronounced good, then will its contents last, perhaps, as long as the tin plate itself. All that is now necessary is to protect the tin from rust, which is accomplished by coating it thickly with paint.

Now, as regards the condemned Government stores, referred to in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for January 17th, they were prepared in Moldavia, and hence the time occupied in their voyage here would have been quite sufficient to have set up decomposition, and to have caused that bulging out of the canister sides of which we have spoken. We should like to be informed, then, whether this appearance was recognised by the Government inspectors? If it were not recognised—did not in point of fact exist—if the present condition of the food is attributable to a perforation of the tin from subsequent causes, that perforation must be visible. We desire to know, then, whether such perforations really exist?

As for the principle of the process, it is irreproachable, and cannot fail to be successful when applied with moderate care: we consider it one of the most valuable applications of chemistry to the necessities of man that modern scientific annals can boast of.

Our Sketch represents the establishment of Messrs. Ritchie and McCall, of Houndsditch, whose preserved provisions are excellent, as we can testify from experience, having examined the contents of canisters taken at random from their stores.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, February 1.—Third Sunday after Epiphany.
MONDAY, 2.—Purification. Candlemas Day.
TUESDAY, 3.—Blaise. Sun rises 7h. 39m., sets 4h. 50m.
WEDNESDAY, 4.—Stoppage of United States Bank, 1840.
THURSDAY, 5.—Agatha. The late Sir R. Peel born, 1788.
FRIDAY, 6.—Dr. Priestley died, 1804.
SATURDAY, 7.—Half-Quarter Day.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE, FOR THE WEEK ENDING FEBRUARY 7, 1852.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
M	A	M	A	M	A	M
h	m	h	m	h	m	h
9 55	10 28	11 8	11 44	12 18	0 43	1 12
1 35	2 12	2 51	3 32	4 15	5 02	5 53

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE, OXFORD-STREET.
Under the Management of Mr. CHARLES KEAN.—On MONDAY, FEB. 2, will be performed Shakespeare's Play of the MERCHANT OF VENICE, and the Pantomime, Tuesday, 3d, Shakespeare's Comedy of Twelfth Night, with the Swiss Cottage (as acted at Windsor Castle, by Royal command, and the Pantomime. Wednesday, 4th, Shakespeare's Tragedy of Hamlet, and the Pantomime. Thursday, 5th, Shakespeare's Comedy of the Merry Wives of Windsor, and the Pantomime. Friday, 6th, this Theatre will be closed, in consequence of the Royal Performance at Windsor Castle. Saturday, 7th, To Parents and Guardians, the Swiss Cottage, and the Pantomime.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE, Mrs. FANNY KEMBLE will
commence a Series of READING, of SHAKESPEARE, at the St. James's Theatre, on TUESDAY EVENING NEXT; on which occasion will be given MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, with Mendelssohn's Music. Conductor, Mr. Lucas; assisted by full Orchestra and Chorus.

ASTLEY'S ROYAL AMPHITHEATRE, Proprietor and
Manager, Mr. W. BATTY.—On MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2d, and during the Week, the Performances will commence at Seven, with the gorgeous Oriental Spectacle of BLUE BEARD. To be followed by the astounding Performances of Mons. Frantz Benoso. The Scenes in the Circle will be of the most novel and pleasing description. The whole to conclude, each evening, with the popular and original Equestrian Fantomime, on Tuesday, 3d, and on Wednesday, 4th, the new and original Fantomime, called "The Juvenile Fete," which will take place on FRIDAY next, February 6th, on which occasion the entertainment will commence with the Pantomime, concluding at an early hour with "Blue Beard." Tickets may be had at the Box-office, from Eleven till Four daily. Stage Manager, Mr. T. Thompson.

ROYAL MARIONETTE THEATRE, ADELAIDE-STREET, WEST STRAND.—Continuous Novelties, Continuous Success, Continuous Applause, and overflowing audiences. Great hit of the BOTTLE IMP.—MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2d, and every Evening during the week, a new Gratulatory ADDRESS, written and delivered by Mr. Albany Brown; the MANAGER'S ROOM, in which Signor Bart Toss will sing the "Bottle Imp." First time of a new Neapolitan grotesque Divertissement, called "Arlechino Fortunato," with the new Italian Mimes. Doors open at Half-past Seven; to commence at Eight o'clock. A MORNING JUVENILE PERFORMANCE on WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY next, upon which occasion the doors will be opened at Half-past Two, and commence at Three o'clock. Private Boxes and Stalls to be had at the Box-office of the Theatre, and of all the principal Librarians.

ROBIN'S SOIREES PARISIENNES et FANTASTIQUES.
No. 232, Piccadilly.—Third Programme. Inimitable Novelties. Every Evening, at Eight o'clock, M. and Madame Robin will repeat their inimitable SOIREES. Every Wednesday a Morning Performance, at Half-past Two. Children under ten years of age, half-price. Places may be secured at Mr. Mitchell's Royal Library, Mr. Sams' Royal Library, Ebers', Andrews, &c. N.B.—The entertainment will be concluded with the marvellous performances of Antonio Diavolo and his Clowns (two automaton of unrivalled perfection); and also the Last Moment of a Bloomer.

RECITATIONS MUSICALES.—SECOND SEASON.
PROGRAMME of Mr. W. BINFELD'S RECITATION, NEW BEETHOVEN ROOMS, 27, QUEEN'S-HEAD-ROAD, LONDON, FEB. 3, at 8 o'clock.—Trio, Beethoven. Aria, Handel. Duet, Harp and Piano, Rossini. Solo, Grand Fantasia, Harp, Avars. "Le git in Gondola." Alary. Nocturne, Chopin. Etude, Moscheles. "Sovra sia il vento." Mozart. Fantasia, Concertina, from "Lucia." Vocal Duet, Mendelssohn. Setet, Oberon. Vocalists, the Misses Pyne and Mr. W. Binfeld. Instrumentalists, Messrs. Margaret and L. Binfeld, Messrs. W. R. H. and A. Binfeld.—Tickets, 4s; Double, 5s; Reserved, 7s; at 201, Regent-street.

MONS. ALEXANDRE BILLET begs to announce that his THIRD ANNUAL SERIES of SIX PERFORMANCES of CLASSICAL PIANO-FORTE MUSIC will take place at ST. MARTIN'S HALL on TUESDAY, FEBRUARY the 10th and 24th, MARCH the 9th and 23d, and APRIL the 6th and 20th. In the course of which he will perform specimens of all the great Pianoforte Composers, including several never before performed in public. Select Works of the following Masters will be produced:—Bach, Scarlatti, Handel, Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Weber, Duetz, Schubert, Fintz, Clementi, T. Field, Moscheles, Kalkbrenner, Hummel, Cramer, Wolff, Mendelssohn, Spohr, F. Heller, Chopin, Macfarren, S. W. Bennett, Stephen Heller, &c.—Tickets for a Single Concert, 2s; Reserved Seats, 5s; Subscriptions to Reserved Seats, One Guinea. To be had at the Hall.

LOVE'S ENTERTAINMENTS AT CROSBY HALL having been received on Monday last by an audience crowded to the ceiling, while numbers were unable to obtain places, Mr. LOVE will appear again on MONDAY, FEB. 2. He will present his Entertainment entitled LOVE'S LENTEN LUCUBRATIONS, with Vocal Experiments, &c. To be followed by PAST TEN O'CLOCK and a CLOUDY NIGHT, and other Entertainments. Pianoforte, Herr Lutz. Begu at Eight. Stalls, 3s; Hall, 2s; Gallery, 1s. Doors, containing Programmes, &c., 6d.—On Thursday, Feb. 5, Mr. Love will appear at the Assembly Rooms, Woburn, on Wednesday, Feb. 11; and Thursday, Feb. 12, at the Assembly Rooms, Cambridge.

NATIONAL DEFENCES.—AN EXPLANATORY DESCRIPTION OF WILKINSON'S STADIA, THE PRUSSIAN MUSKET, THE LANCASTER AND MINIE RIFLES, THE IMPROVED CONICAL BULLET, AND FIREARMS of the Earlier Periods, will be given at the ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION, by Mr. CRISP, DAILY, at Three o'clock, and at Half-past Eight in the Evening.—A LECTURE on the MUSIC of MANY NATIONS, with Vocal Illustrations, by T. Thompson, Poet, Esq., on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday Evenings; in addition to the usual Exhibitions, Lectures, &c. Admission, 1s; Schools and Children under ten years of age, half-price. Open daily from Eleven to Five, and every Evening, except Saturday, from Seven till Half-past Ten.

M. GOMPERTZ'S GIGANTIC PANORAMA of the
ARCTIC REGION is now Exhibiting at the QUEEN'S ROOMS, PORTSMOUTH, to the most crowded audiences ever assembled within the walls of those Rooms.—This Panorama will next be exhibited in the Town of Brighton.

ELECTRO-BIOLOGY.—Last Week but One, at EGYPTIAN HALL.—Rev. T. FISKE will continue his LECTURES NEXT WEEK, at 165, ALDERSGATE-STREET, on MONDAY EVENING; at the Music Hall, Store-street, on Wednesday Evening; and at the Commercial Hall, King's-road, Chelsea, on Saturday Evening, at Eight o'clock, with a great variety of extraordinary Experiments upon persons in a perfectly wakeful state. Dr. Darling will Lecture and Experiment every Evening, at the Egyptian Hall.

GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, REGENT-STREET.
Last Four Weeks of the Crystal Palace as a Garden, the Overland Mail to India, and Taj Mahal, now Exhibiting daily, at 3 and 8 o'clock (for the production of the New Diorama, the Military achievements of the Grand Duke of Wellington). Admission, 1s, 2s 6d, and 3s. Doors open half an hour before each representation.

HINDOSTAN.—This Grand MOVING DIORAMA is now
OPEN daily, at 12, 3, and 8, at the Asiatic Gallery, Baker-street Bazaar, Portman-square. Admission, 1s, 2s, and 3s 6d. "The spectator is made to ascend the stream from the flat region of Calcutta to the glorious range of the Himalayas, and everything of interest in the way is mapped and pictured with the fidelity of a geographer and the skill of an artist." The Athenaeum.

ZOOLOGICAL GARDENS, REGENT'S PARK.—The
HIPPOPOTAMUS, presented by H. H. the Viceroy of Egypt, the ELEPHANT CALF, and many recent additions are exhibited daily.—Admission, 1s; on Mondays, 6d.

CALDWELL'S ASSEMBLY-ROOMS, DEAN-STREET, SOHO, capable of accommodating 2000 persons.—SOIREES D'AMANTES every Night. Admission, 6d; per quarter, £1 1s.—Mr. Caldwell undertakes to teach any Lady or Gentleman unacquainted with the use of the Ball-room to enter with grace and freedom, and take part in this fashionable Amusement, in six private lessons, for £1 1s. Class Nights are forming twice a week. The next LONG QUADRILLE NIGHT will take place on TUESDAY, FEB. 24. Admission, 1s.

THE ARCHITECTURAL EXHIBITION (with the Collection
of Materials, Patents, Processes, &c., connected with Architecture) is NOW OPEN, from 10 till dusk, at the Portland Galleries, opposite the Polytechnic Institution, Regent-street.—Admission, 1s, including a Catalogue; Season Tickets, including a Catalogue, admitting the holder from the 10th of January to the 18th of March, 2s. Free tickets may be had for workmen on application at the Galleries.

JAS. EDMESTON, Junior,
JAS. FERGUSON, F.R.S.A. Non. Secs.

THE SEA.—Young Gentlemen are carefully and expeditiously
prepared for the Naval Service by Mr. E. G. LIVESAY, who has been eminently successful for many years past.—Address to Eldon House, Graveney, near Merton, Surrey.

SMART'S WRITING INSTITUTION, 5, PICCADILLY
between the Haymarket and Regent-circus.—Open from 10 till Nine daily. Persons of all ages received (privately) and taught at any time suiting their own convenience. Lessons one hour each. No classes; no extras. Improvement guaranteed in eight or twelve easy lessons. Separate rooms for ladies, to which department (if preferred) Mrs. Smart will attend.—For terms, &c., apply to Mr. Smart, as above.

ANNOUNCEMENT.
Early in February will be published, in two vols. 8vo., cloth, price One Guinea, with Portrait now first collected, and translated in a complete form.
THE POLITICAL WRITINGS OF PRINCE LOUIS NAPOLEON BONAPARTE: with an ORIGINAL MEMOIR of his LIFE, ought down to the present date, drawn from Authentic Sources, Critical Notes, &c.
These volumes will possess great interest at the present moment. Amongst the most important works of the Prince which they will comprise are his "Political Revolutions," with the Scheme of a Constitution, published in 1832; "History of Napoleonism;" "On the Extension of Pauperism;" "Historical Parallels between 1688 and 1830;" &c., &c.
Office of the NATIONAL ILLUSTRATED LIBRARY, 217, Strand.

NOTICE.—The Subscribers to the ILLUSTRATED LONDON
NEWS can have their Volumes Bound in the appropriate Covers. Gilt-Edged, at per Volume, by sending them, carriage paid, with Post-office order payable to LEIGHTON SON, and HODGE, 13, Shoe-lane, London.

ALL THE LONDON AND COUNTRY NEWSPAPERS punctually supplied in Town and Country, by W. DAWSON and SONS, 4, Cannon-street City, London. (Established 1809.) * * * Advertisements and Notices of Births, Deaths, and Marriages inserted in all the London and Country Newspapers. A list to be had on application. Country Booksellers supplied.

ORPHAN WORKING SCHOOL, Haverstock-hill, for
Children of both sexes, of all denominations, and from every part of the kingdom.
Patron—THE QUEEN.

FIFTY ORPHAN CHILDREN will be ADMITTED during the present year: 25 at each Election. The next Election will take place in APRIL, all applications for which must be sent in before the 1st of March. Forms for filling up, with the list of Governors, and all the necessary information, may be obtained at the Charity. To meet the increased expenses arising out of the admission of 144 additional Children since 1842, contributions are earnestly solicited.
JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary.

Office, 32, Ludgate-hill, January 19, 1852.
THE NINETEEN-FORTH ANNIVERSARY of the CHARITY will be celebrated by FESTIVAL, which will take place at the LONDON TAVERN, on FRIDAY, 18 MARCH 18, when the Right Hon. the LORD MAYOR will preside, supported by the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex, and the Under-Sheriffs.
A List of Stewards will shortly be published.
Annual contributions of a Governor, £1 1s; life, £10 10s; annual subscriber, 10s 6d; life, £25.

THE ROYAL PANOPTICON OF SCIENCE and ART
Leicester-square, incorporated by Charter. Capital £20,000, in shares of £10 each. Deposit, £1 per share.

PATRONS.
The Most Hon. the Marquises of Londonderry, Alibury, and Granby; the Right Hon. the Earls of Shrewsbury, Cardigan, Cadogan, Craven, Verulam, Ducie, and Ellesmere; the Right Hon. Lord Beaumont, the Right Hon. Sir F. Pollock (Lord Chief Baron), the Right Hon. Lord Viscount Brackley, the Right Hon. Lord William Powlett, and the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, President—Gerard Noel Hoare, Esq., Hendon.
Vice-President—Samuel Gurney, Jun., Esq., 65, Lombard-street.
Resident and Managing Director—E. Marmaduke Clarke, Esq.

ASSOCIATES.
Bally, E. H., Esq., R. A.
Costa, M., Esq.
Cubitt, L., Esq., A.C.E.
Elvey, G. J., Esq., Mus. Doc.
Hall, S. C., Esq., F.S.A.
Hart, S. A., Esq., R. A.
Hering, G. E., Esq.
Lance, G., Esq.
Landseer, F., Esq., R. A.
Macdowell, F., Esq., R. A.
Treasures—John Masterman, Esq., M.P.; Henry Hoare, Esq.
Auditors—Robert N. Fowler, Esq., 4, Princes-street, Bank; G. O'Dell Gowan, Esq., 7, Copthall-court, Throgmorton-street.

The progress which has been made in the Building in process of erection in Leicester-square is highly satisfactory, and affords every ground for hope that the Institution will be in full operation in the early part of next year, when it will be the object of the Council of Directors to ensure the approbation of the public by the superiority of the arrangements, both as regards scientific instruction and amusement.
Application for prospectuses, and for the remaining chartered shares, to be made to the Secretary, at the temporary offices of the Corporation, 23, Tavistock-street, Strand, from 10 to 4 o'clock; or to Messrs. Sheppard and Sons, Stock and Share Brokers, 28, Threadneedle-street.
By order of the Council, WILLIAM REYNOLDS, Sec.

FIFTH DIVISION OF PROFITS.
C LERICAL, MEDICAL, and GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.
REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS, Read at an Extraordinary General Meeting, held at the Society's Office, on the 1st day of January, 1852.

In accordance with the Provisions of the Deed of Constitution, the Directors have called the present meeting, for the purpose of laying before the Proprietors and the Assured the result of an investigation of the Society's affairs for the five years ending June 30, 1851.
On that day the Society had been in existence twenty-seven years; and the result of this the fifth investigation affords abundant ground for congratulation as to the past, and of hope for the future. This will be evident by a consideration of the following facts:—
The income of the Society, for the year ending June 30, 1851, was £116,300; that for the year ending June 30, 1851, £136,100; being an increase since the last Quinquennial Division of £19,800 per annum.
In January, 1847, the surplus divided was £154,500.
The total assets on June 20th last, exclusive of the Proprietors' paid-up Capital of £50,000, were £684,327 11 1.
The total liabilities up to the same date were £683,112 4 1.

Leaving a Surplus of £1,215 7 0.
The above Surplus of £1,215 has now to be dealt with; but, in order to avoid inconvenient fractions, the Directors have resolved to recommend to this meeting to divide the sum of £180,000.
In conformity with the provisions of the original Deed (which alone regulates the present Division), one-sixth part of the Profits is to be divided among the Proprietors, and one-half among the Assured for Life. This will apportion to the Proprietors £30,000, and to the Assured for Life £90,000, leaving one-third of the said Profits, amounting to £90,000, to be laid by as a Reserve Fund. The Proprietors will thus receive a Bonus of £6 per share, and the Assured a sum of £131,125, being the equivalent in reversion to the above amount of £90,000.

This sum of £131,125 will be added to the policies, and be payable at the death of the respective parties, and will form an addition, varying with the different ages, from 24d to 5s per cent. on the Premiums received during the last five years.
In estimating the amount of liabilities, it is important to observe that each Policy has been valued separately; that there has been no encroachment on, or anticipation of, future profits; and that a mode of valuation has been adopted whereby a larger sum than is usual with most other offices has been retained to meet such claims as may arise. This will appear by the following example:—

Sums set aside as the value of a Policy for £1000.	By Offices valuing by the Northampton Three per Cent. Table.	By the Mode adopted by this Office.	Difference in favour of this Office at future Divisions.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Effectuated at the Age of 40, after 10 years.	152 3 7	153 8 5	6 4 10
Effectuated at the Age of 50, after 10 years.	197 17 3	215 2 0	17 4 9
Effectuated at the Age of 60, after 10 years.	282 7 5	321 3 0	43 15 7

The Proprietors and the Assured are aware that hitherto the Profits at each Division could only be apportioned to the Proprietors of one-sixth to the Assured, and three-sixths to the Assured, while the remaining two-sixths were thrown back into the general assets of the Society, and formed an ever accumulating Reserve Fund.

The consequence has been, that the Reserve Fund, which at the Division at the end of the first Seven Years, in June, 1831, was only £5,000, had increased in 1836 to £6,500; in 1841 to £18,500; in 1846 to £51,500; and in June 1851 to £60,000.

The continual increase of this Fund has up to this time operated to the disadvantage of the Assured, and has tended materially to diminish the amount of the Bonus, which would have been apportioned to them had the whole profits been distributed at each quinquennial period. In order to obtain powers to alter the mode of division, and for other purposes, the Directors, with the consent of the proprietors, applied for and obtained an Act of Parliament in 1850.

By this Act the Reserve Fund is now permanently fixed at £50,000, and the Profits, at the next and all future Divisions, are to be distributed in the proportions of one-sixth to the Proprietors, and five-sixths among the Assured.

The effect of these changes will be to give to the Proprietors hereafter a much smaller portion of the Profits; but, from the additional inducements held out to the Assured, the Directors venture to hope that a considerable increase of business will afford some compensation for this sacrifice.

As regards Assurers, whether old or new, it is clear that the recent arrangement will prove highly advantageous to them. The difficulties arising from the augmentation of a continually increasing and indivisible surplus have thus been removed; and at the Division in 1857 the Assured will participate in the proportion above stated, not only in the Profits regularly accruing from the general business, but also in the five years' interest derived from the sum of £50,000 now laid by, together with £10,000, being part of the principal.

It is confidently anticipated that the interest of the said sum of £50,000, together with the £10,000, will alone produce an amount fully equal to that portion of the profits to which the Proprietors will be entitled; so that, upon the whole, the Assured will have the benefit of the entire profits produced by the regular business.

The Society therefore presents all the advantages afforded by Proprietary Offices, and more than all those offered by Mutual Offices, since in this estimate no account is taken of the Profits which may be realised by Policies issued on the non-participating scale—a branch of business which Mutual Offices do not usually undertake.

When the provisions of the Act came into operation on the 1st July, 1851, the Directors caused an entirely new Prospectus to be published, embodying every additional facility for Assurers which increased experience had rendered it advisable to adopt. Policies can now be effected either on a participating or a non-participating scale; the Assured have leave to reside in most parts of the world without extra charge; and claims will in future be paid at the end of thirty days after proof of Death, instead of three or six months, as is the general rule.

The Directors, therefore, after a period of twenty-seven years of steady and uninterrupted prosperity, are enabled confidently to invite the attention of the Public to the great advantages offered to Assurers in this Society. An unusually ample sum has been retained to meet future claims. A large and permanent Reserve Fund has now reached the limit assigned by Act of Parliament. The expenses of management are small, and do not exceed 3s per cent. on the income. And all persons conversant with the details of Life Assurance will at once perceive the favourable position of the Society, and will discern that its prospects are as encouraging as its retrospect has been successful.

The new Prospectus can now be obtained of any of the Society's Agents, or of GEO. H. PINCKARD, Secretary.

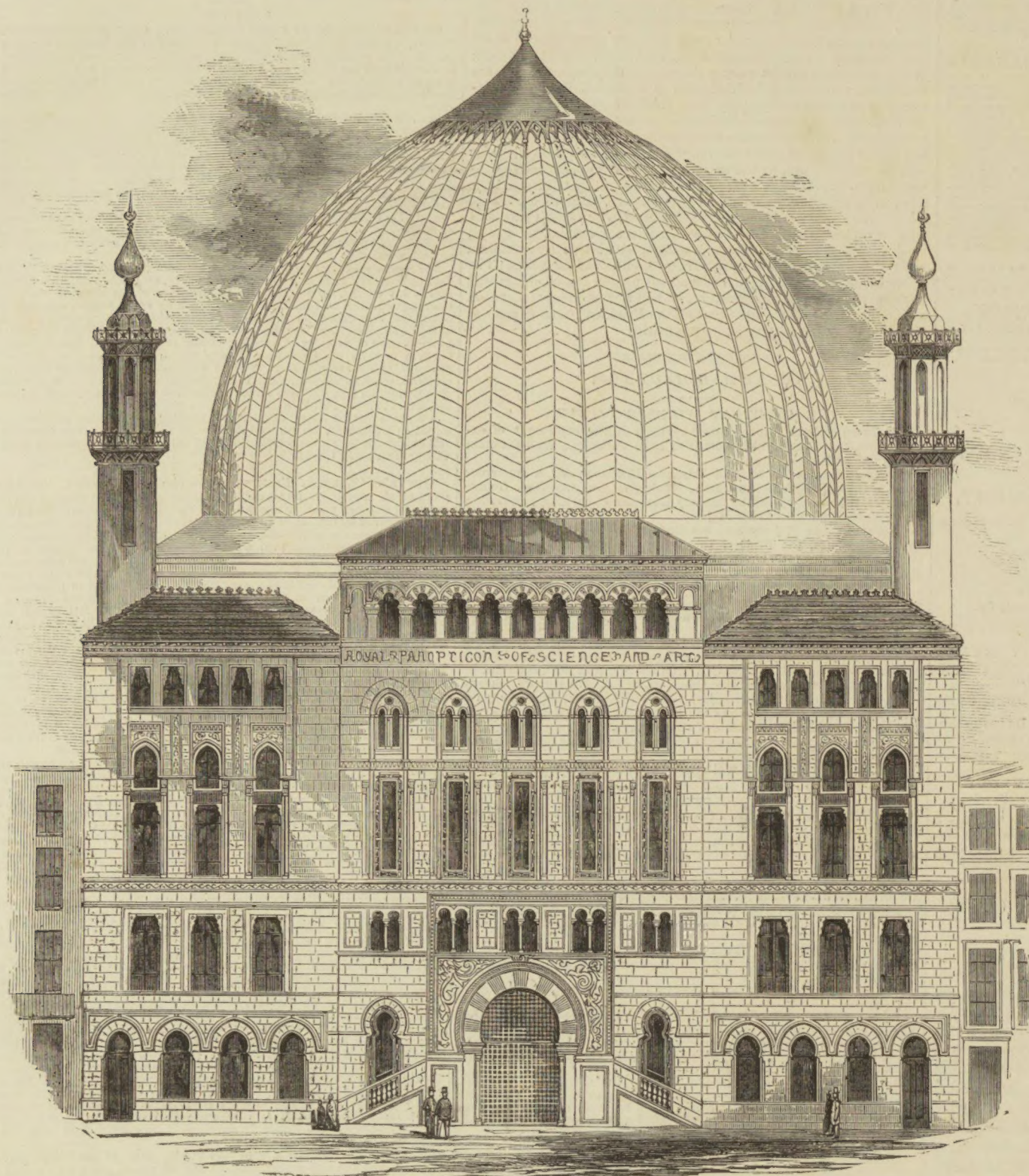
99, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury, London.

GERMANY.—To PARENTS.—A Clergyman and his Wife
leaving England in April for a residence of a year or more in a very healthy and beautiful part of Saxony, where first-rate masters can be had, wish to take CHARGE of ONE or TWO YOUNG LADIES. They have already resided some years in Germany, are well acquainted with the language, and can give introductions into the best society. Any one entrusted to their care will receive the most kind and careful instruction in the principles and practice of the profession, and have unusual opportunities of acquiring them. A moderate premium required.—Letters addressed to OMKA, care of Messrs. WILBY and SONS, Lincoln's Inn, London, will receive attention.

AT HAMPSTEAD.—EDUCATION of a superior character,
conducted by a LADY, who can offer every advantage, on the most modern system of instruction, from a long residence on the Continent, and much experience in private tuition in families of high standing. The situation of her establishment is particularly salubrious, and its proximity to London affords great facilities for masters. A Parlor Board can be accommodated.—For terms, and references to Clergymen, address, A. B. Post-office, Pancras-vale, London.

LAW.—ARTICLED CLERK WANTED.—A SOLICITOR
at the West End (member of the Law Institution), in good conveyancing and general practice, is willing to treat with the friends of a gentlemanly and well-educated YOUTH for his articles on advantage, on such terms as may be agreed. He would be carefully instructed in the principles and practice of the profession, and have unusual opportunities of acquiring them. A moderate premium required.—Letters addressed to OMKA, care of Messrs. WILBY and SONS, Lincoln's Inn, London, will receive attention.

ROBBERIES IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM.—A teacher of languages named Charles Pickering, was charged at Bow-street Police-office on Monday by Mr. Antonio Panizzi, keeper of the printed books in the Museum, with being the trustees of a number of plates cut from valuable works. The prisoner was a visitor of the reading-rooms since November, 1849, and had been introduced from a most respectable quarter. Mr. John Olivier, the publisher, asked for Pickering's aid in a work on general costume from the 17th century to the end of the reign of George III., and the prisoner offered illustrations for a work called "La Française," affirming that he had cut them from an album. Mr. Olivier went to the Museum last Saturday, to consult Mr. Panizzi, when the latter immediately identified the prints as having been stolen from the Museum. Comparing the volumes of "La Française," nearly half of them correspond with the missing illustrations. A search was made at the lodgings of the prisoner, and various plates from different works were found, which had been cut square and made much smaller than they originally were, with the exception one, which tallied exactly with the part of the work from which a plate had been cut. The prisoner was remanded.



THE ROYAL PANOPTICON, LEICESTER-SQUARE.

THE ROYAL PANOPTICON OF SCIENCE AND ART, LEICESTER-SQUARE.

The building now in course of erection on the eastern side of Leicester-square, by the Corporation of the Royal Panopticon of Science and Art, will, it is expected, present a finished specimen of the Saracenic style of architecture, a style which has as yet no perfect exemplification in the metropolis; and, while on the one hand the erection in question will attempt to convey to the spectator a model of Moorish grandeur, it will, at the same time, be no servile copy of any existing edifice. The splendid remains at Cairo have afforded much that is now reproduced; and it is from an actual Daguerrotype of one of the mosques that the model of the dome has been taken, whose intrinsic beauty in this instance affords an ample apology for the strict adhesion of the architect to the magnificent original. The imposing *façade* which this structure will present towards Leicester-square will be by no means diminished by the two lofty

minarets which rise on either side to a height of upwards of 100 feet; and from which, we understand, it is proposed to exhibit powerful lights.

Passing through the vestibule or entrance, the spectator will be at once ushered into a grand circular hall of a diameter of ninety-seven feet, surrounded by three galleries, placed one above the other in the circumference of the building; and destined, as well as the centre, for the reception of works of art and industry, models of manufactures and scientific apparatus, and thus to afford the most agreeable opportunity to the sight-seer to mingle instruction with amusement. We must not forget, however, to mention that a very considerable space in the great circular hall will be allotted to an extremely large and powerful organ, to be built for the Corporation by Messrs. W. Hill and Co., whose success at Birmingham warrants every expectation which the most sanguine can form as to the compass and execution of the instrument entrusted to their construction.

The other portions of the building, though less striking, will nevertheless be first-rate of their kind: the lecture-rooms, laboratory, and offices will be of such dimensions and finish as will well warrant the beauty of the external edifice.

The original promoter of the institution is Mr. E. M. Clarke, who, having obtained the Royal charter under which the institution has been founded, has parted with the same to the gentlemen now forming the Council, at whose deliberations he, however, assists.

REMAINS OF AN ECCLESIASTIC DISCOVERED IN ST. STEPHEN'S CRYPT, WESTMINSTER.

On the afternoon of Saturday week, the body of an ecclesiastic, presumed to have been of some eminence from the position in which the corpse was found, was discovered by the workmen employed in removing part of the north wall of the crypt, necessary to the restoration of the edifice, which is intended to serve as a chapel to the House of Commons.

The body was found lying with the feet to the east, on the right hand of the altar—a situation appropriated only to a founder or other personage of superior dignity. The remains are those of a tall man, measuring full six feet. They are closely wrapped in linen, sewed longitudinally, and tied round by strings at-

tached to the seams. The right arm was accidentally broken off a little below the shoulder when the discovery was made. The left leg still remains embedded in the rubble of the wall. On the right foot are the remains of a leather shoe. A pastoral staff, probably of cedar, lies diagonally from the left shoulder to the outer side of the right foot: the head of the staff is carved in an elegant foliage, and the stem cusped. The remarkable feature in this discovery consists in the circumstance of the body having been literally built into the masonry of the wall, without coffin or any enclosure, except the linen shroud in which it is wrapped; and by this it would appear to have been there deposited at the erection of the edifice; but whether translated to this situation or originally so buried, cannot be conjectured. The body lies a little obliquely to the line of the wall.

The accompanying View of the north angle of the east end of the Crypt shows the situation in which the body was found.

St. Stephen's Chapel was founded by King Stephen, in the seventh year of his reign, and dedicated to the martyr of that name. King John granted the custody of the Chapel to Baldwin, Clerk of his Exchequer. It was rebuilt by Edward III. in 1347, and a dean, twelve secular canons, thirteen vicars, four clerks, six choristers, a vergier, and a keeper were appointed to serve in it. In modern times the Crypt was appropriated as a refectory, having been used for the Speaker's dinners. The ornamentation of this edifice is in the best style of the fourteenth century, and the bosses are remarkably large and fine, containing representations of the martyrdom of saints. They have originally been elaborately enriched with painting and gold.

A correspondent of the *Globe* suggests that the body is that of William Lyndwode, Bishop of St. David's and Keeper of the Privy Seal, who founded a chantry in the chapel of St. Stephen by deed, and died in 1446, as on reference to the patent roll of 32 Henry 4, m. 4, there will be found an entry of a licence, dated 19th of July, from the King to "Robert Pyke, clerk, and Adrian Grenebough, executors of William Lyndwode, lately Bishop of St. David's and Keeper of the Privy Seal, for the foundation of a perpetual chantry in the under chapel of St. Stephen, within the King's Palace of Westminster, for two perpetual chaplains, or at least for one perpetual chaplain, to celebrate Divine service daily in the aforesaid chapel, or one of them in the under chapel (St. Mary's), and the other at the chapel of St. Mary de la Perva, situated near the King's said chapel of St. Stephen, for the healthful estate of the King and his consort Margaret, Queen of England, and their sons when they shall die; and also for the soul of the aforesaid Bishop, whose body lies buried in the said under chapel," &c.

WATCH OF KING CHARLES I.

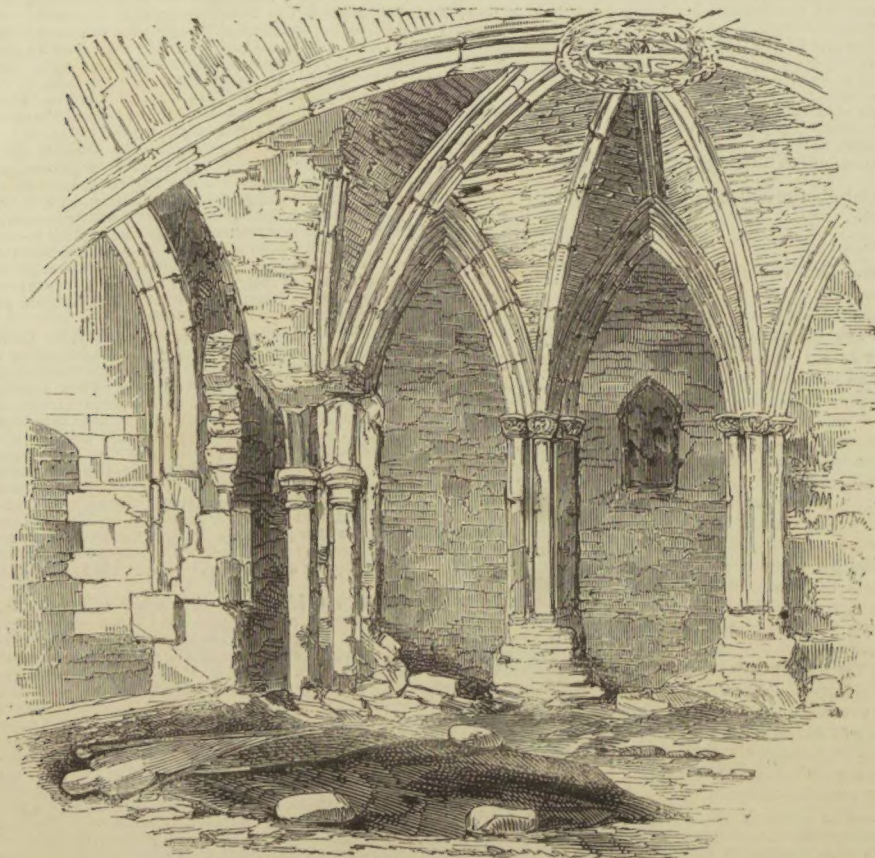
In the Exhibition of Mediæval Art, held in the rooms of the Society of Arts, in 1850, was shown the interesting relic which forms the subject of our Engraving. It is the silver Clock Watch which had been constantly used by King Charles I., and given by him to Sir Thomas Herbert on the morning of his execution, Jan. 30, 1649. It has descended as an heirloom to its present possessor, W. Townley Mitford, Esq., by whose kindness it was shown at the Society of Arts.



WATCH OF KING CHARLES I.



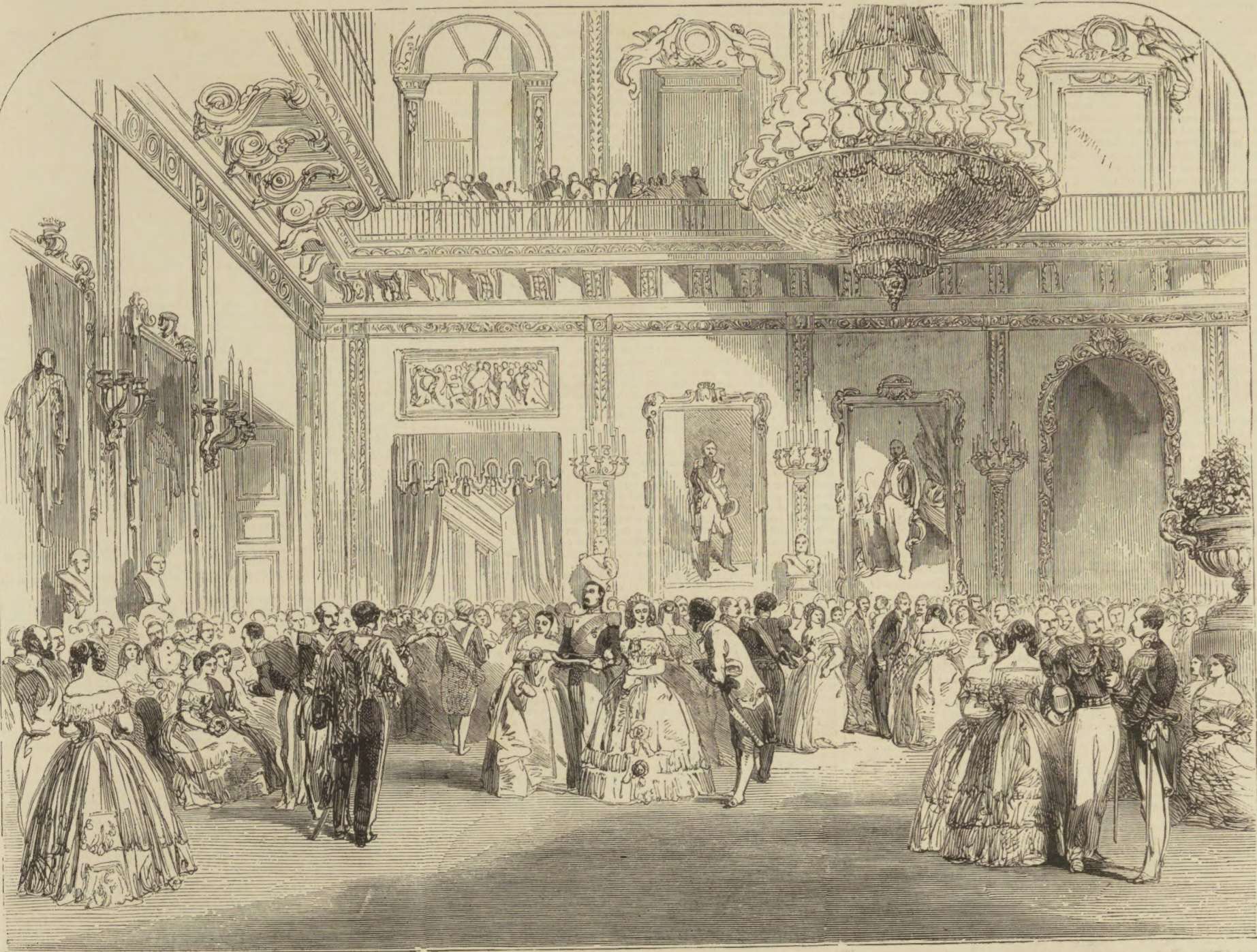
The face of the Watch is beautifully engraved, and the back and rim are elaborately engraved and pierced with foliage and scroll-work. From its undoubted authenticity, this is probably one of the most interesting relics of King Charles I. now remaining; and from its being one of his last gifts, it is the more historically interesting.



CRYPT OF ST. STEPHEN'S, WESTMINSTER.



REMAINS OF AN ECCLESIASTIC, FOUND AT ST. STEPHEN'S, WESTMINSTER.



STATE BALL AT THE TUILERIES.—RECEPTION IN THE SALLE DES MARECHAUX.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

PARIS FASHIONS FOR FEBRUARY.

THE New Year has been commenced in Paris with a series of ceremonies which have been characterised by the most brilliant toilets. The inauguration at Notre Dame, the ball at the Hôtel de Ville, and the representation at the Opera, presented rare displays; but the grand ball at the Tuileries outshone them all. The Notre Dame ceremony brought out the walking and morning dresses. The bonnets were of exquisite

freshness, and were generally trimmed with feathers, flowers, and jet. We noticed that the richer Cashmere shawls had been somewhat laid aside, and that cloaks entirely of velvet predominated. Jet, lace, embroidery, braids, &c. covered them almost all over. The long shawls are found to be rather heavy, and to crush the richly-trimmed toilet which is now in fashion: the fronts of the bodies, which are trimmed with lace, puffs of ribbon, and the slight quillings, cannot bear the weight of a shawl. The cloak, which is lighter, is accordingly preferred; and beneath it a guess may be made of the elegance of the waist. The materials for dresses are still the same; except that the antique watered silks, which were made plain or with large patterns, are to be seen at balls and parties striped and coloured, after the well-known Pompadour taste—a fashion till now applied to lighter fabrics. A few years back, jewellery was only worn on the head, and the *parure*

of other days was composed of the necklace (the most important part), the comb, the earrings, and the diadem. This jewellery was afterwards laid aside, and bracelets alone were to be seen, several being worn at the same time. In the present day people have gone back to the Gothic



PARIS FASHIONS FOR FEBRUARY.

and *Rénaissance*; and in the invention of artistic jewellery it has been ascertained that the jewels which ornamented the portraits of the great ladies of other days, in the pictures by Rubens, Janet, and others, were quite equal in value to the comb set with diamonds of our time.

Jewellery is now more than ever worn, and is allowed even with the simplest indoor toilet; we have thus the *châtelaine*, which carries the watch, its key, and a thousand other fancies, called *brelouques*. The waistcoats have introduced buttons; and there are the studs for the wristbands, cap pins, shawl pins, rings, and bracelets—all which remind one of the past, and have brought back the lost fashion of coloured stones, as emeralds, rubies, &c. For evening, however, diamonds as head-dress are alone tolerated: the fancies for colours are restrained to bracelets and rings, to which have been added, for richness and brilliancy, the lustre and variegated hues of enamel.

The dresses worn are very pretty and graceful; they threatened last year a complete copy of Louis XV., without introducing the changes necessary for our time or our habits of life, not to speak of our actual good taste, which must be allowed to have made some progress in the past centuries, since we draw from them all they possess that is beautiful, rich, and graceful, to compose our toilets of the day. Gold is very much in fashion; the head-dresses are covered with it—gold sequins, gold blond, gold beads, and gold grapes.

THE ILLUSTRATIONS.

Antique watered silk dress, with running pattern; body in a point, trimmed with a quilling, grandmamma fashion, and fastened in front by three ribbons, similar to the quilling, and closed by a round knot; sleeves large, also trimmed with a quilling; with under-sleeves of Malines lace; the *fichu* is open in front, and of the same lace; head-dress of ribbons.

Evening Costumes for Children.—The little girl's hair raised behind, the two plaits forming a crown on the head; dress of grey taffetas, and little paletôt of the same; body with small skirts. Trousers of cambric muslin, trimmed with English embroidery; black satin *bottines*. *Boy's Dress*.—Velvet dress, trimmed with a braided embroidery, as well as the petticoat. White quilted waistcoat, lace collar, and frill; trousers of English embroidery, and black velvet gaiters. This dress may be worn of any shade of velvet.

Cap of Maines lace, trimmed with flat bunches of ribbon; dress quite open in front, cambric muslin waistcoat, buttoned straight down the middle, with a row of diamond buttons; lace forming a quilling on each side of the middle fold.

Head-dress of Ribbons à la grecque, with flat bunches; head-dress of feathers on each side, and fulling.

GRAND STATE BALL AT THE TUILERIES.

On Saturday night Louis Napoleon gave his first grand ball at the Palace of the Tuileries. The number of guests was exceedingly great. The first arrivals were as early as nine o'clock, and from that hour until nearly twelve the carriages were, without intermission, engaged in setting down guests. The President entered the room about half-past nine, accompanied by the new Ministers in their official costume, and by about forty or fifty personages of distinction, such as members of the Consultative Commission, generals, and others. He gave his arm to the Marchioness of Douglas, and appeared in excellent spirits. He was dressed in the uniform of a general of division of the French army, and wore the grand order of the Legion of Honour, with a magnificent *cravat* in diamonds. He walked four times through the rooms in the course of the evening, saluting with marked graciousness such of the guests as he happened to recognise.

The President did not dance. Prince Poniatowski, the Tuscan Minister, at the request of Louis Napoleon, opened the ball with a waltz, the Marchioness of Douglas being his partner. The Princess Mathilde was present, and wore her magnificent diamonds, but it was observed that she conversed but little with the President. The President conversed for a length of time with his uncle, the ex-King Jerome, who has been for some time on bad terms with his daughter, the Princess.

It was remarked that the principal men of the former Chambers were absent. No Legitimist was present, nor, in general, were the ladies of the French aristocratic circles. On the other hand, foreign ladies of rank were in great numbers, and particularly those from Russia. The Princess Worontzoff, the Countess Narischkin, and several pretty Polish ladies, were frequently spoken to during the evening by the President.

The number of military men present was very great. There were, however, several Prussian and Swedish uniforms, and a considerable sprinkling of English ones.

Though the rooms were splendidly lit up, and the display of diamonds magnificent, the crush was so great as to spoil the general effect, and to destroy at once the ladies' toilettes. Substantial refreshments of *pâtés de foie gras*, hams, fowls, &c., were provided in the long gallery facing the gardens. A railing ran down the whole centre of the apartment, so as to divide it; and along each side buffets were arranged. But the regulation was that all the ladies were to pass down before one line of tables, and all the gentlemen down the other; thereby preventing the possibility of all those pleasing attentions which ladies have a right to expect from the other sex.

Our Artist has engraved the reception in the Salle des Maréchaux: the walls contain in compartments portraits of the marshals of France; and busts of distinguished generals and naval commanders are placed round the room.

THE THEATRES.

DRURY LANE.

The lessee has commenced his operatic campaign brilliantly. On the 23d inst. one of the three grand musical operas of Meyerbeer, and, in the opinion of many judges, his finest production, the mystic "Robert le Diable," was performed with signal success; and on the 24th "Fra Diavolo," one of the earliest and most delightful comic operas of Aubert, was executed with an excellent ensemble. In these two works the talents of two different companies of singers were put in requisition, and the capabilities of orchestra and chorus were fully tested. Four *débûts* in one evening, and not one failure, must be assuredly cited as a remarkable fact in lyric history.

In the admirable interpretation of "Robert le Diable," and in its enthusiastic reception by an English audience, the true lover of art progress must sincerely rejoice. It shows how much has been gained in executive skill in this country, and it proves that the faculty of just appreciation has also made immense way. On no former occasion has "Robert le Diable" "gone off" according to the conventional phrase of theatres, with such animation and evident enjoyment of its superlative beauties. And yet the result did not so much arise from the genius of any of the principals as from the general closeness and conscientiousness of the rendering. Schira directed the performance with the greatest tact—he had made himself master of the points of the elaborate and marvellous score, and he inspired his forces with the spirit and precision to do justice to the composer's conceptions. Where the whole was so efficiently given, it would be indeed hypercritical to point out the few deficiencies in this remarkable execution. There are some first-rate soloists in the band, and the *obbligati*, therefore, of the violin, flute, oboe, clarinet, violoncello, bassoon, &c., came out forcibly and truthfully: a little additional strength in the violas and contrabassi, and criticism would be dumb.

As regards the new vocalists, that which we have long predicted, as to the self-creative character of a national opera, came to pass, curiously enough, on the first night, for it produced a new English *prima donna*. Miss Crichton, on the morning of her *débüt* in the *Princess Isabelle*, was an unknown pupil of the Royal Academy of Music, or rather of the famed Manuel Garcia, the master of Jenny Lind and of his sister Viardot, and on the morning after her first appearance she awakes and finds herself famous. Without a single dramatic requisite for the lyric stage, she achieved one of the most brilliant triumphs on record, such was the irresistible sympathy of one of the most magnificent voices ever heard. Scarcely able to move an arm or limb from fright and inexperience, provoking an involuntary smile by her most awkward action and bashful gestures, yet did the house rise *en masse* and cheer her, as the rising star of the operatic horizon. Much has she to learn and acquire, but nature has given her such a lovely organ, that study and practice will soon set her at ease, and she has already won the public, ever kind and indulgent for the trembling novice. Her method and execution are, of course, unexceptionable, and her success was the event of the night. Mlle. Evelina Garcia was the *Alice*. She was born in Spain, but is no relation to the Malibran and Viardot Garcias. She has had considerable stage experience, is a clever and intelligent *artiste*, with a thin soprano, the upper notes of which tell in concerted pieces; but her intonation is defective, and the deficiency of middle notes is vexatious, compelling her in the solos to abandon the text of Meyerbeer for divisions which are no improvement. M. Fédor is a Russian by birth, who has sung in Italy with success. It was a daring act to make his *débüt* in such an arduous and ungrateful tenor part as that of Robert, in which we have witnessed the failures of Duprez, Mario, Fraschini, Gardoni, and a host of *débütants*, at the Grand Opera in Paris, two of whom broke down in the cavern scene, after the duo "Les Chevaliers de ma patrie." M. Fédor, prudently reserving his powers in the declamatory recitatives, reached the trio finale without a break of any kind, singing many portions of the part with so much skill and effect, and commanding an *encore* in the celebrated "Sicilienne." There is much charm in the quality of his voice, and he will be, no doubt, a valuable acquisition. Mr. Drayton is a native of Philadelphia, and was a pupil of the Parisian Conservatoire, an indication of which was manifested in his *Bertram* being based on the Levasseur reading of that tremendous bass part. Although he was suffering from severe indisposition, which caused, indeed, the repetition of the opera to be postponed from Monday last to last night, the outline of the sketch was sufficiently dramatic and impressive, and he will, doubtless, fill it out in more elaborate details on a future occasion. He has a powerful voice, the upper range of which is best in quality, and he displayed finesse in the use thereof in the subdued passages. The unaccompanied trio in the cavern scene

was extremely well sung by Mlle. Garcia, M. Fédor, and Mr. Drayton, and unanimously encored—the three voices being in good tune to the last.

The *mise en scène*, under Mr. West's judicious direction, was picturesque; the groupings were characteristic; and the orgies of the nuns, at the head of whom Miss Annie Payne gracefully distinguished herself, were well executed.

Auber's charming opera, "Fra Diavolo," was originally produced at the Opéra Comique in Paris, in 1829. On the 3d of November, 1831, it was adapted to the English stage by Mr. Robinson Lacy, and had a great run: Misses Romer and Cawse, Messrs. Braham, G. Penson, Wilson, Morley, G. Stansbury, and Reynoldson, were in the original cast. "Fra Diavolo" is a very captivating production; it was composed the year after the distinguished composer had brought out "La Muette" ("Masaniello") at the Grand Opera in Paris, and sixteen years before he produced "Le Philtre" for the same establishment. From the well-known lively overture to the concluding grand scene of the bold brigand, the interest of the music is ever gay, melodious, and animated; the weight of the admirable *solis* falling on the tenor part, *Fra Diavolo*, in whom, in fact, is centred the interest of the opera, both musical and dramatic, the characters of the two *prime donne* being but of very inferior importance. At Saturday's revival, for the first appearance this season of Mr. Sims Reeves, who made his *débüt* on the Drury Lane boards, after his return from Italy, in "Lucia," under Jullien's short career as a manager, *Fra Diavolo* was of course enacted and sung by the great English tenor, who has played the part with great success in the provinces. Mr. Whitworth also was heard for the first time as *Lord Alcazar*, the *Lady* being allotted to that very clever *artiste*, Miss P. Horton. Mrs. Sims Reeves appeared as *Zerlina*, whose lover, *Lorenzo*, was supported by Mr. Manvers. The two robbers, *Giacomo* and *Beppo*, were assigned to Messrs. Dehaga and Rayman, who were very inefficient representatives of the part. Miss P. Horton and Mr. Whitworth acted and sang extremely well, developing the points of imbecility and eccentricity in their characters without caricature, and keeping up always the tone of good society as people of rank. Mr. Manvers, whose *Rainbow* deserves an especial word of praise, will be a very useful tenor. Mrs. Sims Reeves has intelligence and tact, and is a good musician, but has scarcely sufficient vocal and dramatic powers for a large theatre. In a certain range of light comic opera characters her abilities may, however, be available, if not adapted for the highest-class parts of the lyric drama. Mr. Sims Reeves, in *Fra Diavolo*, achieved the greatest success he has yet accomplished, either on English or Italian boards. It is in every respect suitable to his powers. His singing of the serenade, "Agnes," was perfectly beautiful, and elicited a most rapturous *encore*, and his delivery of the concluding scene was replete with vigour. He well earned the distinctive honour of being called before the curtain alone at its fall.

The prospects of a National Opera are now cheering, if our singers will but set aside their caprice and jealousies, put their shoulders to the wheel, or rather not refuse their "sweet voices" when wanted, and really look to the promotion of art. There is evidently a strong disposition on the part of the public to uphold an English opera-house, and it is to be hoped that there will be no occasion to enlighten the public as to the real reasons why there are such difficulties in providing amateurs with musical amusement and recreation.

"Fra Diavolo" was to have been repeated on Thursday night, and the audience assembled in the theatre expected the curtain to draw up for the opening chorus, when Mr. Bunn came on the stage, accompanied by Mrs. Sims Reeves, and announced the incapability of Mr. Sims Reeves to sing that evening. Mr. Bunn had a medical certificate, and appealed to Mrs. Sims Reeves for its truth; but the cry of "Wolf!" apparently in public opinion had been raised once too often, and the lessee had the greatest difficulty, with all his tact, to restore calm for "Robert le Diable," which was substituted, and in which the magnificent voice of Miss Crichton had the power of soothing the "savage breasts." Meyerbeer's work was given last night, and will be repeated to-night.

Miss Fancit made her first appearance for the season on Wednesday. The character selected for her present *débüt* was *Juliet*. Mr. Anderson enacting the *Romeo* of the evening. Never was Miss Fancit more finished and artistical in her delineation of the young and fair Italian. The softness, delicacy, and intensity of the passion were exemplified with the most exquisite art. The balcony scene was perfectly delicious; and in the scene with the nurse, consequent on *Lybalt's* death and *Romeo's* banishment, the agony and the despair were depicted with a blending of tenderness and power that reached the highest points of the histrionic art. In a word, Miss Fancit's acting was throughout charming—wonderfully elaborated, but everywhere beautiful. That so captivating an actress had not succeeded in attracting a more numerous audience, demonstrates with unquestionable force that the attention to scenery, costumes, and other stage accessories, now common at smaller establishments, is as necessary at the national theatre as at the Princesses' or Sadler's Wells.

HAYMARKET.

Mr. Howard Glover's two-act comic opera, "Aminta the Coquette," the author of the drama having prudently concealed his name, produced on Monday night, will not immortalise his name as a composer. Making due allowance for one of the most ill-concocted and dismal books—we will not say poem—ever wedded to music, the composition is of that nondescript class which belongs to everybody and nobody. Mr. Howard Glover is a composer in search of a style: he borrows from every school, and his music is therefore neither fish, flesh, nor fowl. If one listened to the unaccompanied quatuor in the first act, so well sung by Miss Louisa Pyne, Mrs. Caulfield, Mr. Weiss, and Mr. Harrison, there was not the slightest difficulty to trace its paternity in the English glee school; and if the hearer's attention was for a moment fixed in the concerted piece in the last act, in which Mr. Harrison, as *Fernandez*, is condemned to death as a smuggler, because Miss Louisa Pyne, as *Aminta*, has jilted him, the striking resemblance in the ideas and forms to Donizetti and Verdi was unmistakable. When Mr. Howard Glover essays originality, his music is ugly, as the ungrateful passages written for Miss Louisa Pyne's wondrous facility frequently proved. Whether it was in irony or in earnest, we know not, but a double *encore* attended the flimsiest and most commonplace air in the opera, "What a thing is love!" sung by Mrs. Caulfield. Of course, the life of the tender tenor is spared, as the village alcalde (Weiss), who condemns him to death is proved to be a receiver of contraband goods himself, and, to save his own life, he pardons *Fernandez*, who is united to the remorseful coquette. The scenery and dresses had been carefully attended to; but we fear "Aminta" will be a waste of time and energy for all concerned therein.

OLYMPIC.

A new piece was produced on Saturday. It is called "A Conspirator in spite of Himself." A schoolmaster, *Inigo Inkhorn* (Mr. Farren), ignorant of French, is employed to copy treasonable papers relative to the exiled Stuarts. One of the leaders of the Jacobite plot, *Randolph Hastings* (Mr. W. Farren, Jun.), falls in love with the schoolmaster's adopted daughter, *Bertha Danvers* (Miss Louisa Howard). Among the papers there happens to be one in English, disclosing the full particulars, which *Inkhorn* lays before the Government. The traitors are accordingly arrested, including *Hastings*. The conflict of feelings here brings out the character of *Inkhorn*, and certain touches of pathetic acting on the part of Mr. Farren. Things, however, are not desperate, after all; for *Inkhorn* recollects that he possesses a letter written by the late King to *Bertha's* father, promising to grant any request, in consideration of some important services. The requisite request is, of course, made and granted. Mr. Farren was efficiently supported by Miss Louisa Howard.

SURREY.

A new piece by Mr. T. J. Searle was produced on Monday. It is entitled "Annie Tyrrell; or, Attree Cope." The subject is somewhat out of date—poaching being the fault that leads to the misfortune. *Kiwers*, the hero (Mr. Creswick), though released from gaol, yet cannot succeed in life because of the brand inflicted by his imprisonment; and, consequently, soon becomes again guilty, and suffers for his crime. All this is homely enough, and was rendered touching by the skill of the author and actor.

CROSBY HALL.

On Monday Mr. Love gave a polyphonic entertainment, which was witnessed by a crowded audience. Mr. Love has added to his delineations many characteristic points, and has also yielded to the spirit of the age in the getting-up of the pieces. He has availed himself to the full of accessories in costume and ventriloquism; and, in his selection of pieces, is careful to supply his audience with incident, jest, and great variety of dialogue. His astronomical examination of his supposed grandson is an exceedingly humorous scene; while that with old Charley the watchman, in indicating vocal distances, is perfect in its illusion. Mr. Love is, beyond doubt, an artist; and his art, by long and constant practice, has ripened into excellence.

MARIONETTE THEATRE.

New pieces have been added to the performances here. The "Bottle Imp," with a piquant address, by Mr. Shirley Brooks, in particular, has been remarkably successful. "Bombastes Furioso" and "Pauline" continue to be attractive. The scenic accessories tend much to the popularity of the Marionettes.

WINDSOR THEATRICALS.

On Friday week Leigh Hunt's "Legend of Florence" was performed, the play of "King John" being deferred until next Friday. Mr. Phelps acted the character of *Agolanti*, and Mrs. Kean that of the passive and ill-used wife. This lady, it is believed, will take the part of *Constance* in Shakespeare's tragedy; the other two principal characters will be personated as we have already stated. We may add, that Mr. Wigan is named for *Faulconbridge*. In connexion with these interesting items, we may mention, to the honour of the profession, as well as to that of the distinguished *artistes* themselves, that Mr. and Mrs. Charles Kean had on Saturday a private audience of her Majesty.

St. James's Theatre.—Mrs. Fanny Kemble will commence a series of readings of Shakespeare at this theatre on Tuesday next, with "Midsummer Night's Dream," accompanied by Mendelssohn's music, and an efficient orchestra and chorus.

Whittington Club.—Mrs. T. C. Foster delivered on Monday her lecture on "Costume," accompanied with illustrations delineating female dress from the hoop to the Bloomer. Mrs. Foster is possessed of a very pleasing elocution, and, being also of an interesting person, the lecture was listened to with a sort of charmed attention. The subject was well treated, and as a composition her discourse had great literary merit. The room was numerously attended, and the applause well merited.

MUSIC.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY.

On Wednesday night Exeter-hall was crowded, to listen to Mendelssohn's "Hymn of Praise," and his music to Racine's lyrical tragedy of "Athalie." Both works were executed, under Costa's able direction, most efficiently. The overture to the "Lobgesang," and that to "Athalie," with the war march of the Levites in the last-mentioned composition, were played to perfection by the band. The introduction of the six harps in the "Athalie" overture had a magnificent effect, only to be compared with the wondrous use made of those instruments in the trio finale of Meyerbeer's "Huguenots," as it is done in Paris, where eight harps are employed. Mr. Vandenhoff recited the illustrative narrative with dignified feeling. The principal vocalists were Mrs. Endersohn, Miss M. Williams, and Mr. Lockey in the "Lobgesang," with the addition of Miss Dolby in the "Athalie."

From the annual report for 1851, submitted to the general meeting last Tuesday, we learn that the receipts for the year amounted to £10,327 2s. 4d., of which no less than £9012 10s. 6d. were the proceeds of concerts. After paying all expenses, the surplus, £1227 19s., has been invested in additional stock. For professional aid no less than £5300 had been expended last year. Considerable additions have been made to the musical library. At eighteen of the concerts during the time the Exhibition was open the number of persons present exceeded 2000 each time, and at seven of them above 2100 persons attended. We published the number of performances, and the works performed, at the close of last season, which was the most brilliant since the formation of this admirable institution.

MUSICAL WINTER EVENINGS.

Under the management of Mr. Ella, the director of the Musical Union, a series of six concerts of instrumental music commenced on Thursday night, at Willis's Rooms. These entertainments are conducted on the same principle as the fashionable morning meetings of the Musical Union. The director strives to obtain the co-operation of the most eminent executants, and his first scheme was in every way calculated to inspire confidence in his tact and judgment, both as to the selection of compositions and their conscientious interpretation. The opening selection comprised Haydn's quartet in D minor, No. 78; Mendelssohn's posthumous quartet in E, Op. 81; Spohr's quartet in E, Op. 83; Beethoven's duet in E, Op. 5, for piano and violoncello; and Herr Paner's capriccio, "La Chasse," Op. 34. The executants were M. Salton (first violin), Herr Schmidt (second violin), Mr. Hill (viola), Signor Piatti (violinello), and Herr Pauer (pianoforte). With such a galaxy of executive skill, and with the singing of Herr Reichart between the pieces, the "Evenings" have begun brilliantly.

MUSICAL EVENTS.

Mendelssohn's "Elijah" was performed last night, at Exeter Hall, by the London Sacred Harmonic Society, under Mr. Surman's direction. Miss Birch, Miss Dolby, Miss L. Baxter, Miss Stewart, Messrs. Lockey, Cotterell, Frost, Temple, and Phillips, were the vocalists; Mr. H. Blagrove, leader of the band; and Mr. Jolly, organist.

The English Glee and Madrigal Union gave their second concert at Willis's Rooms on Monday evening.

The fifth and last of the London Thursday Concerts took place on the 29th.

The musical entertainments for next week will be the English Glee and Madrigal Union, on Monday; Mr. W. S. Bennett's *soirée* on Tuesday; that of Mr. W. Binfield on the same evening; the performance of Mendelssohn's "Elijah," at Exeter Hall, under Costa's direction, by the Sacred Harmonic Society, on Friday; and English opera every night, either at Drury-lane or the Haymarket Theatre.

Mr. Aguilar's second *soirée* of classical pianoforte music was given on Tuesday, at the Queen Anne-street Rooms: he played the Sonata Pathétique, the sonatas Op. 12, No. 2, and Op. 29, No. 1, Herr Jansa being the violinist in the former; and the andante in A and scherzo in C—all works of Beethoven. Miss Messent was the vocalist.

THE PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.—The concerts of the 46th season are fixed for Mondays, March 15 and 29; April 19; May 3, 17, and 31; June 14 and 28. Mr. Costa is the conductor.

NEW PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.—The announcement of a new musical society under this title, whose performances will be given in Exeter-hall, has created a great sensation. The names of some eminent capitalists are mentioned as the speculators; and Mr. Beale, formerly director of the Royal Italian Opera, is the manager on their behalf. The concerts will take place at Exeter-hall, commencing Wednesday, March 24, and to be continued fortnightly until the month of June. M. Berlioz, the celebrated composer, comes expressly from Paris to be the conductor of the largest and most complete orchestra ever yet assembled for the execution of symphonies and overtures of all schools, and without distinction of country as to the composers. The production of new works, native and foreign, is an essential principle of the new society.

CONCERT FOR THE "AMAZON."—Madame Oury, the pianiste, is organising a concert on a large scale, to be given in the Town-hall, Brighton, early next month, under distinguished patronage, to aid the *Amazon* subscription. Mr. Balfe will conduct a large band, with M. Oury as first violin; and Mr. and Mrs. Sims Reeves, Miss Louisa Pyne and Miss Pyne, Signor Piatti, and other eminent *artistes* have offered their gratuitous services.

At Mr. C. Salaman's Amateur Choral Society, on Wednesday, Rossini's "Guillaume Tell" was executed.

The second of the City Wednesday Concerts took place on Wednesday, at Crosby Hall, under M. Billet's direction. The vocalists and instrumentalists were Mrs. Newton, Miss H. Candell, Miss Wagner, Miss Messent, Messrs. Swift, Bodda, Sainton, G. Case, and Billet.

We are happy to learn that the concert for Mr. Blewitt's family will be attended with better financial results than had been anticipated, thanks to the exertions of the honorary treasurer and secretaries.

Mr. Smyth, the director of the Devon and Cornwall Philharmonic Society, is bandmaster of her Majesty's 19th Regiment, now quartered at Devonport.

The Birmingham Triennial Musical Festival, which, for more than half a century, has maintained a leading reputation in the musical world, takes place this year under the patronage of the Queen and Prince Albert, and under the presidency of the Right Honourable Lord Leigh; the days appointed for its celebration being the 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th of September next. We hear that the musical arrangements are in a forward state; and we doubt not but that, under the skilful *bâton* of Mr. Costa, who, as on the last occasion, will preside as conductor, a great treat is in store for the lovers of that high class of music which can only be rendered in perfection at these *réunions*.

At the Classical Concerts, next Wednesday, at the Liverpool Philharmonic-hall, under the direction of Mr. Thomas, the pianist, will be Mr. Brinley Richards.

FOREIGN MUSICAL NEWS.

MUSIC IN PARIS.—The President of the Republic, on the proposition of M. de Morny, the late Minister of the Interior, has cleared off the liabilities of M. Roqueplan, the director of the Grand Opera, and prolonged his privilege for four years, thus enabling him to continue the enterprise up to the end of 1861. It is anticipated that the President will also aid the Théâtre des Italiens with an additional grant of money. The President will have a box in every theatre, and an extraordinary subsidy is to be awarded for the benefit of those theatres which have no Government grants, to indemnify the directors for the losses experienced during the late days of December (the *coup d'état*). Rossini's "Guillaume Tell" was revived last Monday with great care and splendour at the Grand Opera, with Morelli as *William Tell*, Gueymard as *Arnold*, and Madame Laborde as *Mathilde*. Eight hundred new dresses have been made for Halévy's "Juif Errant," which will be ready in a few days. At the Italian Opera House, Feriotti, the new baritone, and Mlle. Cruvelli delighted the audience with their performances of *Nabucco* and *Abigaille*. Susini, the basso, was effective in the *High Priest*. "Fidelio" was in active rehearsal for Mlle. Cruvelli, Mlle. Corbari, Calzolari, and Soldi. M. Dejazet, son of the celebrated actress, has produced a one-act opera, the "Mariage à l'Air," at the Opéra National. The Legion of Honour has been bestowed on M. Franchomme, the famed violoncellist; and M. Perrin, the director of the Opéra Comique. The last letter of Rossini, dated the 10th inst., from Florence, is addressed to a lyric club in Marseille, thanking the members for electing him honorary president, and slyly making some hints at the revolutionary changes, rejoicing that the sentiment for art has not been lost, and concluding by declaring that the composer of "old lumber" accepts with gratitude the honours conferred on him. Mlle. Angri, the celebrated contralto, and Madame Frezzolini are in Paris.

THE GREAT EXHIBITION.—His Royal Highness Prince Albert presided on Tuesday afternoon at a meeting of the Surplus Committee of the Royal Commission for the Exhibition of the Works of Industry of all Nations in 1851. His Royal Highness, attended by Colonel Francis Hugh Seymour, arrived at the Palace at Westminster at three o'clock in the afternoon. The other members of the committee present were: The Right Hon. Henry Labouchere, Sir William Cubitt, Sir Charles L. Eastlake, Sir Charles Lyell, and Mr. Cobden, M.P. Mr. Edgar Bowring (secretary) attended. The meeting broke up at five o'clock, when Prince Albert, attended by his equerry in waiting, took his departure for Windsor Castle.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL RESEARCHES AT ROME.—A highly interesting archaeological prize was brought to light recently in Rome, under the superintendence of the learned Jesuit, Padre Marchi, in the neighbourhood of the catacombs beyond the Porta Latina, amongst a mass of old lead thrown up in other rubbish. In cleaning and examining the venerable metal, on being unfolded, it displayed remnants of a tolerably legible inscription—a sort of invocation to the god Pluto—and destined to act as a countercharm against the incantation of a sorcerer, by whose arts a youth named Lentulus, or Lentilius, had been cast under a spell. Some victim had probably been immolated to propitiate the infernal divinity, and the request of the offerer deposited in the immediate vicinity of the altar. The orthography and style of the Latin, which is a metrical composition, authorise the supposition that it belongs to the republican period, and we have an example of the prevalent superstition which gave rise to it in Horace's seventeenth Epode, where the poet introduces a suppliant acknowledging the power of the sorceress Canidia, and entreating to be freed from her incantations:—

Jam jam effice de manus scientie
Supplex et oro regna per Proserpinam, &c.



PORTOBELLO.

THE UNION OF THE PACIFIC AND THE ATLANTIC.

From the beginning of history, and long, probably, before history was written, the attention of Europe was directed to the rich and golden East, the land whence spices, myrrh, and frankincense were brought to the earliest known progenitors of the European races. With even more than attention, with a fond lingering desire, did the early people of Europe turn towards the East and endeavour to get a share of its wealth and its learning, as if India were, as has been said, the original home of mankind, and that all the children of men were entitled to look on it as a common heritage. Certain it is, that at least as early, if not earlier than ancient Egypt, India was civilised; and its great wealth, the result of art and skill, made it an object of attraction to all who had strength to plunder it, or means to acquire by trade a portion of its treasure. Alexander the Great and Columbus were alike induced to undertake the enterprises that have rendered both immortal, by the splendour that from time immemorial enveloped in the mind of man the gorgeous East. From seeking a short and easy passage to India, Columbus became the discoverer of America; and though that wonderful event, and its consequences, made men forget for a time the desire that led to it, yet was a short cut to India, even after the voyage round the Cape of Good Hope was made, and all its treasures had become easily accessible to the Western World, never wholly lost sight of.

The broad expanse of the continent of North America, and the vast extent to which the other end projected into the southern hemisphere, barred an ocean path to India by the west; but the Pacific Ocean was scarcely reached by the earliest adventurers from Spain, and the narrowness of the neck of land that connects the two parts of the new continent ascertained, before the idea germinated of finding there a means of realising the long-cherished desire of reaching India by a short westerly route. Ever since the Darien expedition, in 1699 (wrote a correspondent of the *Athenaeum* from Panama in May last), has the project of connecting the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans been urged on the world, and especially on England: even long before that, as early at least as 1551, when Gomara wrote, according to Mr. Squiers,* was this an object of speculation. The land was surveyed; but neither the speculations of the early adventurers in that part of America, nor the enterprise of even our own countrymen in 1699, nor any of the subsequent attempts, though the subject appears never to have been long allowed to sleep in oblivion

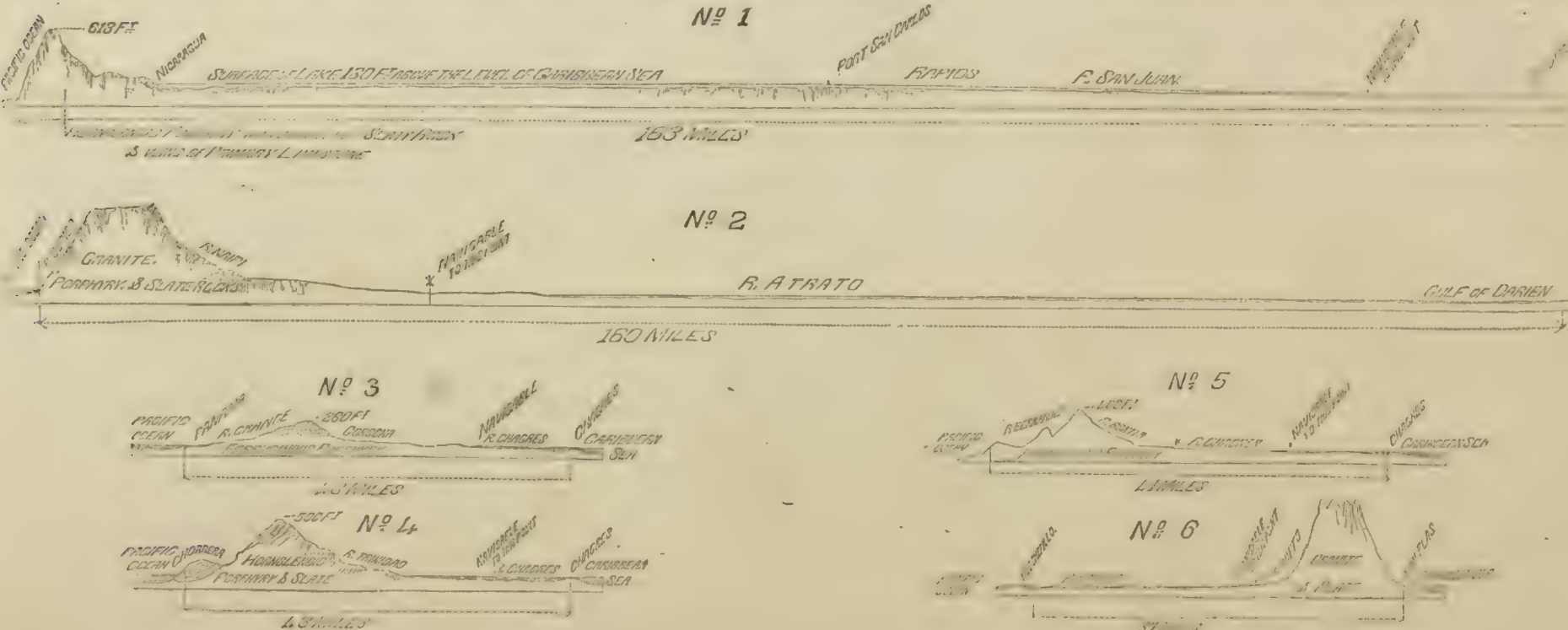
went beyond schemes and speculation. The time had not come till our own age—till the mines of California were discovered, and the population of Europe and of the western coast of America hastened to the eastern coast, impelled by the same desire as drove their ancestors three centuries before in crowds to America: till then the time had not come for realising an idea that has long haunted the mind of man, and for establishing, by continuing the perpetual progress to the West, a short road to the East. For upwards of three hundred years have some vague projects been entertained by Spaniards, English, French, or Americans of making a canal across the Isthmus, but it is only now, and only in consequence of many modern discoveries and improvements, that such a project has become at all feasible. The old notion has been, in fact, for some time vividly revived, and a short practicable communication between the two oceans, though not in the best manner, has been actually carried out.

Steam-vessels now go regularly both from the United States and from England to Chagres, at the mouth of a river of that name, not far from the old town of Portobello, on the Atlantic; thence passengers ascend the river in canoes for about twenty miles; and from that point, designated in our sections, they go to Panama, on the Pacific, by mules. At present the passage can be made in this manner from sea to sea in seventeen hours, but it more usually requires thirty. A railway, however, is constructing to connect the termination of the river navigation with Panama, which in a short time is expected to be completed. As an American has expressed it, you will then light a cigar on the Atlantic, and before you can smoke it out you will be on the Pacific. Steam-boats already ply regularly from Panama to Valparaiso on the south, and to California on the north. Between California and India a regular trade is established, and ships continually pass to and fro. It is not unlikely that before long screw steamers will be engaged in the trade, and will ply as regularly as the packets between Liverpool and New York. By means of these the inhabitants of the latter place expect to communicate with Calcutta in as short a time as we communicate with India by the Isthmus of Suez. We reach Calcutta in a month, but that is three times as long as will be required when the railroad projected across Mesopotamia shall be carried into effect. Already many Chinese flock to California, and are some of the best labourers of that new community, and already, therefore, is there a continuous and a short communication between the newest community of the Far West and the oldest community of the Far East. Two diverging families of mankind have now spread over the globe, and the newest civilisation of the West and the oldest civilisation of the East, after many ages, meet and mingle, coming from opposite directions, at the original point of departure. The desire so long cherished is realised, though in a manner different from the conceptions of Alexander and Columbus. The mysterious East is fully and freely opened to all the children of the West. Man's emotions or desires—instincts we may perhaps call them—are truer and more permanent than his ideas, and guide him in the end to achieve wonders of which his intellect forms no conception till they are about to be accomplished.

The union of the two oceans of the East and the West, the wish of so many generations, bringing ancient Japan into contiguity with the youngest of England's swarms—the humbled millions of the Old World with the energetic millions of the New—will give a fresh impulse to commerce, and will give it a new direction. There will be everywhere increasing wants to be supplied, and everywhere increasing means of supplying them. The contiguity will tend to unite into one all the different nations of the earth, and enrich all by the common exertions. The geographical position of the United States, the energy of their people, the vast extent and diversity of their territory, and the rapid manner in which they multiply, will ensure them a large share of the new development; but Mr. Squiers takes a narrow view of the great phenomena when he looks only at them as conducing to the political and commercial supremacy of the United States. In fact, a reference to the ordinary trade lists from the different ports of the Isthmus shows that all the nations of the earth, and particularly England, are sharing in the growing traffic across the Isthmus, as well as the States. Only the humblest red-tape philosophy, which has never got beyond the documents it has bound up, can suppose that commercial supremacy is due to policy, or that the possession of Gibraltar (as Mr. Squiers says) makes the cottons of England favourites with the people of Africa and Asia, from the Pillars of Hercules to the Persian Gulf. All commerce resolves itself into an exchange of equivalents, and a nation only obtains commercial supremacy by being in all respects a better customer. It must do more for others, or it must give them more than its competitors. But, discarding Mr. Squiers' politics, which rather deface than adorn his otherwise valuable work, we will cull from it some of the information it contains of the various routes by which it has been proposed to form either railroads or canals between the two oceans.

There is the route by Chagres and Panama, already referred to, and marked No. 3 in the Sketch which accompanies this article. The route at present in use by the river, and muddy ravines, and stony paths, runs through a country full of picturesque beauty not to be surpassed by the most celebrated mountain scenery in Europe. Latterly the frequent passage of gold dust in large quantities has gathered about it a rather questionable population; but, before that, the mixed races of Indians and negroes, and the descendants of Europeans, were harmless, if indolent, simple, but rude, and lived in the enjoyment of existence at a small expense of manual labour. Throughout the whole of Central America the plantain and maize supply the people, who have few wants, with the chief part of their food, and the plantain and maize are everywhere abundant. Beef, too, is plentiful, and costs about 1d. per pound. For half a crown a man may get a mulload of plantains. Labour has been purchased for 8s. or 10s. a week. There is on the spot both food and labour; and nothing is required but skill to construct a perfect means of transit. Portobello (of which we give an Engraving), no longer so celebrated as formerly, is still a place of note, and is the nearest town to the starting-point from the Atlantic.

Panama (of which we also give a Sketch), at the other end, is situated on a rocky headland jutting out towards the islands which form there a beautiful and



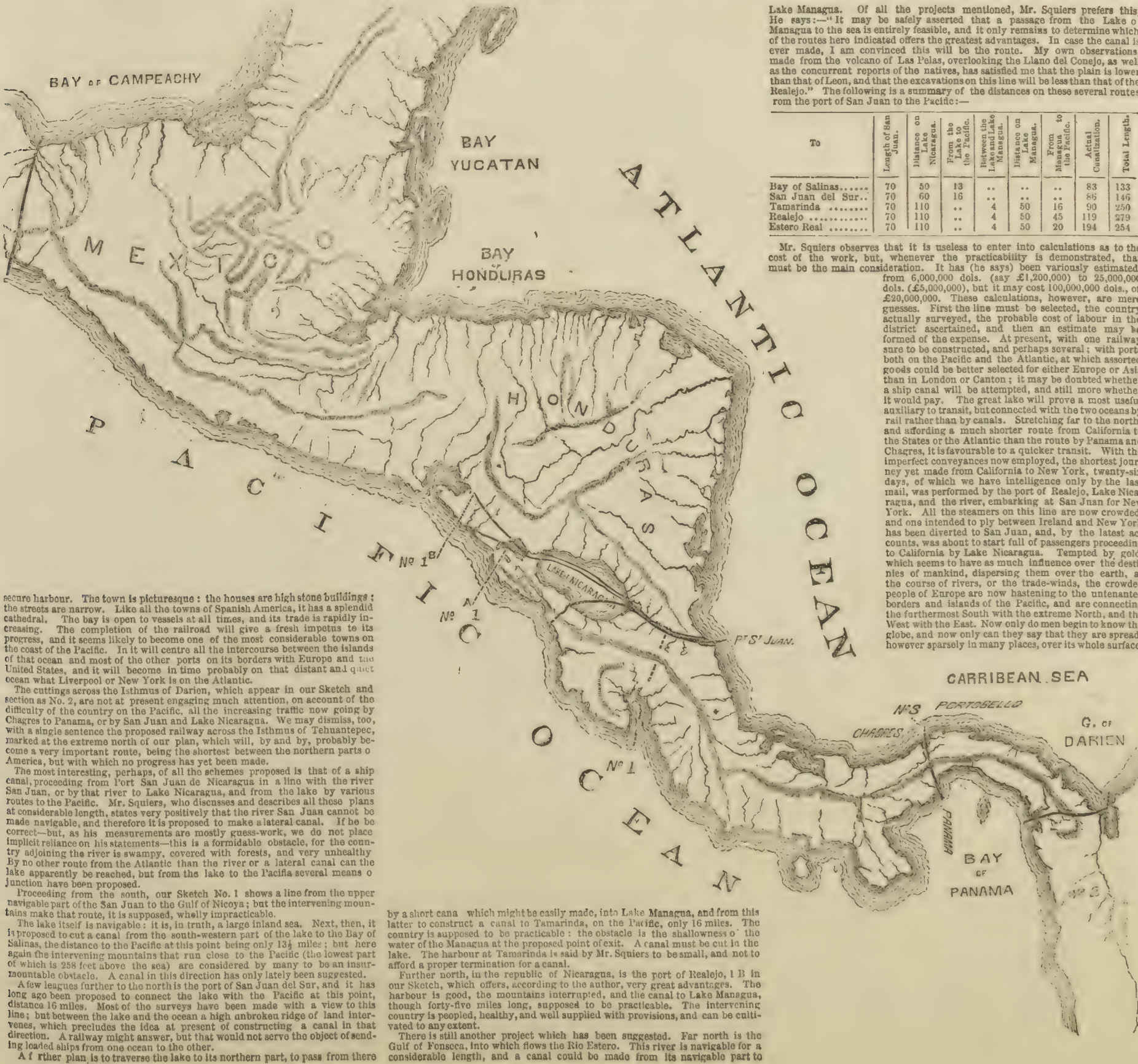
No. 1. Nicaragua Section.—No. 2. Choco Section.—No. 3. Gorgono Section.—No. 4. Chorrera Section.—No. 5. Chorrera Section.—No. 6. Bayano Section.

PROPOSED ROUTES ACROSS THE ISTHMUS OF PANAMA.

* Nicaragua: its People, Scenery, Monuments, and the proposed Inter-Oceanic Canal. With numerous original Maps and Illustrations. By E. G. Squiers, late Chargé d'Affaires of the United States to the Republics of Central America. 2 vols. Longman and Co., 1852.



BAY AND HARBOUR OF PANAMA.



Lake Managua. Of all the projects mentioned, Mr. Squiers prefers this. He says:—"It may be safely asserted that a passage from the Lake of Managua to the sea is entirely feasible, and it only remains to determine which of the routes here indicated offers the greatest advantages. In case the canal is ever made, I am convinced this will be the route. My own observations, made from the volcano of Las Pelas, overlooking the Llano del Conejo, as well as the concurrent reports of the natives, has satisfied me that the plain is lower than that of Leon, and that the excavations on this line will be less than that of the Realejo." The following is a summary of the distances on these several routes from the port of San Juan to the Pacific:—

To	Length of San Juan.	Distance on Nicaragua.	From the Lake to the Pacific.	Between the Lake and Lake Managua.	Distance on Lake Managua.	From Managua to the Pacific.	Actual Canalization.	Total Length.
Bay of Salinas.....	70	50	13	..	..	..	83	133
San Juan del Sur..	70	60	16	..	..	..	86	146
Tamarinda	70	110	..	4	50	16	90	250
Realejo	70	110	..	4	50	45	119	279
Estero Real	70	110	..	4	50	20	194	254

Mr. Squiers observes that it is useless to enter into calculations as to the cost of the work, but, whenever the practicability is demonstrated, that must be the main consideration. It has (he says) been variously estimated, from 6,000,000 dols. (say £1,200,000) to 25,000,000 dols. (£5,000,000), but it may cost 100,000,000 dols., or £20,000,000. These calculations, however, are mere guesses. First the line must be selected, the country actually surveyed, the probable cost of labour in the district ascertained, and then an estimate may be formed of the expense. At present, with one railway sure to be constructed, and perhaps several: with ports both on the Pacific and the Atlantic, at which assorted goods could be better selected for either Europe or Asia than in London or Canton; it may be doubted whether a ship canal will be attempted, and still more whether it would pay. The great lake will prove a most useful auxiliary to transit, but connected with the two oceans by rail rather than by canals. Stretching far to the north, and affording a much shorter route from California to the States or the Atlantic than the route by Panama and Chagres, it is favourable to a quicker transit. With the imperfect conveyances now employed, the shortest journey yet made from California to New York, twenty-six days, of which we have intelligence only by the last mail, was performed by the port of Realejo, Lake Nicaragua, and the river, embarking at San Juan for New York. All the steamers on this line are now crowded, and one intended to ply between Ireland and New York has been diverted to San Juan, and, by the latest accounts, was about to start full of passengers proceeding to California by Lake Nicaragua. Tempted by gold which seems to have as much influence over the destinies of mankind, dispersing them over the earth, as the course of rivers, or the trade-winds, the crowded people of Europe are now hastening to the untenanted borders and islands of the Pacific, and are connecting the furthestmost South with the extreme North, and the West with the East. Now only do men begin to know the globe, and now only can they say that they are spread however sparsely in many places, over its whole surface

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

CABINET COUNCILS.—A Cabinet Council was held on Saturday at the Foreign Office, Downing-street. The Ministers present were, Lord John Russell, the Lord Chancellor, the Earl of Minto, Sir George Grey, Earl Granville, Earl Grey, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Francis Baring, the Earl of Carlisle, the Right Hon. Henry Labouchere, the Right Hon. Fox Maule, and Lord Seymour. The council sat two hours and a half. The absent Ministers were the Marquis of Clanricarde, the Marquis of Lansdowne, and Lord Broughton. On Tuesday afternoon another Cabinet Council was held, which was attended by all the Ministers, except Lord Broughton and the Earl of Minto. The council sat two hours and a half. A third Cabinet Council was held on Wednesday, at the Foreign office, which sat for four hours and a half. Every member of the Ministry was present on the occasion.

INTRINATURAL POSTAGE.—The first deputation received by the new Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs was on the 23d inst., from the association to obtain postal communication between all nations by means of the lowest practical uniform charge for ship transit of letters and printed papers, formed during the Great Exhibition. Sir J. Boileau, Sir John Burgoyne, Mr. Moffatt, M.P., Mr. M. Gibson, Mr. Cole, and Mr. Dilke having pointed out to Earl Granville the advantage and importance of securing the consent of foreign Governments to join in a Postage Congress; having shown that, as regards our colonies, the Minister might induce our Colonial Secretary, Earl Grey, to take some steps; and having proved that, financially, there would be no loss in the extension of the penny postage system, Earl Granville replied that, as vice-president of the Royal Commission of the Great Exhibition, he concurred in the views of the deputation, and that the present was a very happy time for the promotion of their object. He had considered the results of the Exhibition, and believed that they were calculated to strengthen the interests of peace, order, and industry throughout the world. Such objects could be greatly assisted by our foreign policy, if marked by justice and moderation, and if every encouragement that Government could give was afforded, in order to facilitate the intercourse of the inhabitants of other countries with us, so that we might visit each other, and that the mutual communication of knowledge and ideas might be promoted. There was nothing that tended more effectually towards such objects than facilities in the transmission of letters; and he completely went along with the deputation in the principle which they advocated. There were practical details which must be considered in other departments—in those of the Postmaster-General, and of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. He believed that both were considering the subject, and doing a great deal to remove the most glaring anomalies that at present existed in the Post-office communication. It was a question whether the object of an international postage should be negotiated at once with other countries, or in detail with individual Governments. He would communicate to his colleagues what had been stated to him on that occasion, and do everything in his power to assist the views of the deputation. He concluded by expressing his sense of the attention and labour which were required as a substitute for the great ability and talent of the remarkable man whom he had succeeded in office.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—On Wednesday evening the eighth of the series of lectures on subjects connected with the Great Exhibition was delivered by the Rev. Professor Wiles, F.R.S., the matter treated being, "Machines and Tools for working in Metal, Wood, and other Materials." Mr. Isambard Brunel, C.E., was in the chair. The professor remarked on the imperfect exhibition of the machinery and manufacture of this and foreign countries: it was almost impossible to exhibit all the processes carried forward by mechanical contrivances—noise, dust, chips, an unequal temperature, and a variety of similar causes, interfering with a general exhibition of engineering processes. He traced the necessity of workmen making themselves acquainted with the mechanical operations of other vocations besides those in which they were engaged, and of a more intimate connexion between scientific and working men. Referring to prodigies of art achieved by illiterate and uneducated persons with insufficient tools, and to specimens of good carving with a common pen-knife, he observed that a fool the man must have been to have done so when he might have used a better implement, the "chisel," the recognised instrument for such works of art. On the other hand, it was quite likely that the mathematician would be unacquainted with the practical operations of machines with the geometrical laws of which he (the mathematician) is so well acquainted. The lecturer showed how machines constructed for the most frivolous purposes, such as the mouse-trap and jack-in-the-box, may combine some of the most complex and elementary principles which rule the most elaborate and complex pieces of mechanism. He dwelt on the importance of adaptation of parts to a specific purpose; as a motion might be excellent, but, from excess of friction or other cause, may prove a failure. The action of the planing-machine, the origin of the lathe, the dividing-machine, the fusee-engine (the invention of which he ascribed to an Englishman), Mr. Brahma's lock, the block-making machine (invented by the chairman's father), came necessarily under notice, but, without the ingenious models, diagrams, and drawings of the learned professor, it is impossible to follow his developments. Lord Montagu moved, and Dr. Lyon Playfair seconded, a vote of thanks to the lecturer, who, in acknowledging the compliment, stated that his models for illustrating various mechanical actions were quite simple, portable, and inexpensive, so that they might be introduced into the humblest schools.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.—Professor Faraday on the 23d inst. delivered a lecture on a method of measuring the force of magnetic powers with the greatest precision and certainty. He showed by experiment the common phenomena of attraction and repulsion, as evinced by the action of a magnet on a horizontal needle, and cited the general law that the magnetic action is inversely as the square of the distance, which is only true for certain distances, and not for very small ones. He explained the theory of lines of magnetic power. By passing a horizontal needle about a magnet from one pole to another, he showed that at every point it formed a tangent to the curve, or, what was the same thing, each small particle of iron formed itself a tangent. If iron filings or nails be strewn about a common radial or cylindrical magnet, they will assume the form of curved lines abutting on the magnet at each end, and having their greatest distance from it in the production of a line through the equatorial axis. If a metallic wire be laid along in the direction of these lines there will be no electrical action; but if it is laid across these curves, either perpendicularly or obliquely, a current of electricity will pass, which may be measured with the greatest accuracy by the galvanometer. In various interesting experiments the professor showed the existence of measuring magnetic forces. By the mere revolution of a parallelogram of metallic wire, he produced successive movements of the needle of the galvanometer; and, by moving it the contrary way, and cutting their invisible lines in the opposite direction, caused the needle to move also the other way. He considered the earth as one great source of magnetism, and assumed that the magnetic lines of force enter her and make a complete circuit the direction of them being shown by the vertical dip of the needle; and argued that if this were the case, by intersecting these lines an electrical current ought to be formed, as he had already shown with smaller magnets. This, in his concluding experiments, he most successfully demonstrated, as we have stated above.

GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.—At Monday's meeting—Sir R. Murchison in the chair—Captain Syngé, R.N., read the second part of his paper on communication between the Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans, via British North America, by taking advantage of the St. Lawrence and the great Canadian lakes. Westward of Lake Superior there exist numerous lakes and rivers, the waters of which, though separated, it would be easy to connect, and to reach the Pacific by the Lake of the Woods and the rivers Assiniboia and Saskatchewan. Sir R. Murchison approved of the proposal, comparing it in importance to the connecting the Black Sea with the Baltic, achieved by Peter the Great of Russia. Major Carmichael Smyth was in his favour, as he disliked the monopoly of the Hudson's Bay Company. Captain Syngé, in answer to some objections from Mr. Crawford, explained that he wished to see an electric telegraphed railway established, through his views were directed in the first place to water communication. Sir R. Murchison announced, before the society adjourned, that the subscriptions in aid of Captain Beaton's expedition in search of Sir John Franklin were proceeding favourably, and the Russian authorities had promised to render every facility and assistance.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—At Tuesday's meeting—Mr. J. M. Rendal, president, in the chair—the discussion was resumed "On the Alluvial Formations and the Local Changes of the South-Eastern Coast of England," by Mr. J. B. Redman, M. Inst. C. E., and many of the views stated by the author in the paper were still further argued. The paper read was a "Description of a Cast-iron Viaduct erected at Manchester, forming part of the Joint Station of the London and North-Western, and Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railways," by Mr. A. S. Jee, M. Inst. C. E. The object of this structure was to obtain increased accommodation for the goods station of the two companies, which was formed on brick arches, at a level of about 30 feet above the adjacent streets, the arches themselves being used as goods warehouses, and the communication between the two levels being effected by means of hoists. This extension was 700 feet long and 35 feet wide. Messrs. Robinson and Russell were the contractors, and they had most satisfactorily performed the work, the total cost of which, including 21 turn-tables, was under £14,000, or about £20 per lineal foot.

ELEMENTARY DRAWING AND MODEL SCHOOLS FOR ARTISANS.—A meeting of the committee—the Earl of Carlisle in the chair—was held on Wednesday, at the house of the Society of Arts, for the purpose of making arrangements for a deputation to visit Bradford and the West Riding generally, on Monday next. The committee were unanimous that, in order to provide means for establishing these schools on a permanent footing, it is desirable that the power of raising local rates at present enjoyed by museums and other institutions should be extended to schools of design.

LONDON ORPHAN ASYLUM.—On Monday the annual meeting took place at the London Tavern; Mr. James Capel in the chair. The report stated that at the present time, with the thirty elected on Monday, the entire number under the protection of the institution would be 419, making the total number who have received the benefit of the charity 1972. The legacies received were as follow:—£50 from Mrs. Susanna Shepherd, £100 from Mrs. Charlotte Kayner, and £200 from John Thackeray, Esq. The examiners had borne testimony to the satisfactory state of the schools, and it appeared that many of the girls who had entered educational establishments had shown considerable talent. The number of children admitted every year amounted to sixty by election, and the entire number in the institution was nearly 400. The asylum was now becoming inconveniently full, and the only satisfactory mode of meeting the difficulty would be by an enlargement of the building. The annual subscriptions had increased to the amount of £400 over those of the preceding year. The accounts showed that the receipts were £9491 16s. 1d., and the expenditure £9311 17s. 7d., leaving a balance of £189 18s. 6d.

ROYAL DISPENSARY FOR DISEASES OF THE EAR, DEAN-STREET, SOHO-SQUARE.—The half-yearly meeting of this most useful institution was held on Wednesday; Mr. Richard John Cole in the chair. The secretary read the report and the amount of subscriptions received during the last six months, from which it appeared that the institution had benefited by additional donations and subscriptions. The able report of Mr. Harvey, surgeon to the institution, showed that the numbers admitted of the various diseases of the ear, and some complicated affections of the head, during the last six months, amounted to 506; cured 196, remaining in weekly attendance upwards of 300. The well-known ability and success of Mr. Harvey in treating difficult cases in auricular surgery renders this institution one of the most popular of the charities of the metropolis, and accounts for the continued improvement in its resources.

ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL.—On Tuesday the twenty-fourth annual general meeting was held in the board-room of the hospital, Gray's-Inn-road; W. Pritchard, Esq., High Bailiff of Southwark, in the chair. The report stated that there had been a decided improvement in the resources of the charity. The committee had received several large legacies, which had enabled them to pay off £2000 of the mortgage. The annual subscriptions had increased, but the donations had fallen short of the amount received during the previous year. The receipts were, by legacies, donations, and annual subscriptions, £7185 16s. 4d.; the expenditure showed that £2000 of the mortgage, as well as £1941 17s. 10d. of old debts, had been paid off. The remainder was paid for current expenses; there, however, still remained an encumbrance of arrears, owing to the great demand upon the hospital, occasioned by nearly 3000 patients more during the past than in the previous year. The numbers were 30,930 out-patients, and 889 in-patients, making a total of 30,929 relieved during the year 1851. The committee expressed an earnest hope of being able very shortly to re-open a ward containing forty additional beds.

ROYAL ORTHOPEDIC HOSPITAL, BLOOMSBURY-SQUARE.—The Earl of Shaftesbury, president of the above charity, has intimated his willingness to preside over the ensuing anniversary of the hospital, at the Albion Tavern. During the year just ended the peculiar and valuable benefits of the charity have been dispensed to an increased number of patients. The funds have also increased, although greatly disproportionate to the claims of the afflicted, and confident hopes are entertained that the efforts of the committee under the present favourable auspices will greatly advance the benevolent cause.

DISPENSARY FOR CONSUMPTION AND DISEASES OF THE CHEST.—The annual meeting was held on Monday, at the dispensary, Margaret-street, Cavendish-square; Dr. Hastings in the chair. From the report it appears that 332 new cases had been registered since the last meeting, making a total from the commencement of 3139 patients, and 384 patients were then attending the dispensary. The income amounted during the past year to £394 7s. 7d., and the disbursements to £349 10s. 4d.; and the liabilities unpaid amounted to £338 17s. 1d. Thomas Stevenson, Esq., moved a resolution that the meeting adjourn to the 1st of March, in order that the committee may in the meanwhile concert measures for raising further funds to pay off the debt, or, in case of failure, to close the charity.

THE ROYAL JENNERIAN AND LONDON VACCINE INSTITUTION.—The annual meeting was held on Friday week, at the Freemasons' Tavern; Mr. W. H. Ashurst in the chair. The report stated, that during the past year 7800 persons had been vaccinated by the officers of the institution, which was an increase of 400 over the preceding year, making a total of 241,614 persons who had been vaccinated since the foundation of the institution. The expenses of the last year were £310, to which the public had only contributed £286. The total receipts for the year were £327.

ROYAL GENERAL ANNUITY SOCIETY.—At the annual meeting, last Monday—Mr. Pownall in the chair—it was stated in the report that during the past year thirteen additional persons had been elected to the funds of the society. Out of a list of 123 candidates, six more were elected at the meeting. During the past year five of the annuitants had died, two of whom were 87, and the youngest 72. The amount paid to the pensioners in 1851 was £1188 10s. 1d., the largest for nineteen years; but the subscriptions and donations had fallen off. Mr. B. B. Cabell, M.P., will preside at the anniversary festival on the 11th of February. A great reduction had taken place in the expenditure. The society relieves decayed merchants, bankers, professional men, master manufacturers, tradesmen, clerks, their widows, and single females the daughters of these classes, who have seen better days.

BUILDERS' BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.—On Tuesday, a meeting was held at the offices of the institution, New Oxford-street. From the report it appeared that the society was founded in the year 1847, for granting pensions and giving relief to the decayed members of the various branches of the building profession, and that they had now on the funds eight males and three females. Owing to the great success which attended the ball last year, the committee had determined to hold another at Willis's Rooms, on the 19th proximo, under the patronage of the president, Thomas Cubitt, M.P., Sir B. Hall, M.P., Lord Dudley Stuart, and other members of the nobility and gentry. The amount received from all sources for the past year was £1278 17s. 2d. A resolution was moved empowering the directors to elect committees for the various country districts; as also one appointing, owing to the large number of applicants, an election of annuitants in May next.

RELIANCE MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.—On Tuesday the half-yearly meeting took place at the offices in King William-street, City; Mr. H. T. Prinsep in the chair. The secretary read the report of the directors, which stated that "the accounts of the society exhibited results highly satisfactory, and afforded continued evidence of the prudent course observed in the management. The directors, under the existing state of Continental affairs, had deemed it advisable rather to press for the extension of home business than to seek addition to their Continental risks, and they trusted that members would heartily co-operate with them in developing the principles of the society."

RENT GUARANTEE SOCIETY.—On Saturday the proprietors dined at the London Tavern; C. W. Johnson, Esq., in the chair. The chairman and other gentlemen delivered addresses, in the course of which they afforded explanations respecting the objects sought to be carried out by the company, and the mode in which they are accomplished. All the speakers concurred in representing the progress of the institution up to the present period as being most satisfactory.

NEWSVENDERS' BENEVOLENT AND PROVIDENT INSTITUTION.—The second public dinner in aid of this institution, established in 1839, for granting temporary relief and permanent assistance to masters and servants engaged as vendors of newspapers, who, from age, infirmity, or distress, may require the aid of the benevolent, took place at the Albion, on Tuesday; Mr. John Forster in the chair, supported by Mr. Charles Dickens, Mr. John Leech, Mr. C. Knight, Mr. Peter Cunningham, Mr. Whiting, Mr. Harmer, Mr. Mark Lemon, Mr. Bradbury, Mr. Evans & Co. The funded capital of the society is £1250, and there are two pensioners, one a female and the other a male, receiving respectively £10 and £16 each. Mr. Terry, one of the managers, Mr. Charles Dickens, Mr. Whiting, Mr. Harmer, Mr. Knight, &c., addressed the company. The subscriptions amounted to £160.

INCORPORATION OF FINSBURY.—A meeting of the members of the Finsbury Incorporation Association was held on Wednesday night, at 17, Southampton-buildings; William Sandland, Esq., of Hatten-garden, in the chair. It was resolved that the committee appointed to prepare a statement of the constitution and functions of the municipal corporations as laid down in the several Municipal Corporation Acts, together with a statement of the expense which would be incurred in obtaining a charter, be requested to report at the next meeting.

THE ENGINEERS' STRIKE.—A very numerous meeting of the workmen in the various branches of the iron trade was held in St. Martin's Hall, last Monday; Mr. Musto in the chair. Lord Goderich, Messrs. Vansittart, Hughes, and M. Chevalier were on the platform. Mr. Usher moved, and Mr. Brown seconded, the following resolution:—"The employers of operative engineers having renounced their right to do what they like with their own, and denied the operative the right to do what he likes in employing his own wages, and devoting his spare time as he will, and having demanded an unconditional submission, this meeting declares that such a submission would be at once both impolitic and disgraceful." Mr. Hosking moved, Mr. Braddon seconded, and Mr. Ball supported the annexed resolution:—"The employers of operative engineers having closed their establishments, and refused all mediation in the settlement of the dispute between them and their workmen, and having further asserted their determination to treat with men individually only, and not as a society, this meeting is of opinion that all trades are interested in the issue of the contest, and that all should support it to the best of their ability." Mr. Newton addressed the meeting at great length, and in reply to the threats of the masters to procure workmen from abroad, menaced them with the expatriation of the most skilled artisans. Despotism and tyranny, he stated, would produce discontent, the loss of cherished institutions, anarchy, and spoliation. As Englishmen they did not wish this; but, if the employers did continue to oppress and tyrannise over them, there was no doubt but that discontent would be the consequence, and there was no answering for the result. On Wednesday night there was an aggregate meeting of labourers at the National Hall, Holborn, at which resolutions were passed calling for the support of the benevolent public, as they had been, and still intended to continue, neutral upon the subject of the strike, although they had been entirely deprived of the means of support by it, and suggesting that a petition should be presented to the Employers' Association, showing the position and prospects of the labourers, and asking for any sum the association may think fit to advance. To prevent mistake, it is requested that any subscription may be stated to be for the "Labourers' List." Mr. Gooch, the superintendent of the locomotive department of the Eastern Counties Railway, gave notice on the part of the directors to the engineering workmen at Stratford, last Wednesday, that every man contributing a day's pay per week towards the Amalgamated Society would be in future discharged. It appears that the society men have been paid an additional allowance of 5s. per man, and the non-society men that of 3s. per man, making up respectively, for the past week, 15s. and 10s., as voted by the executive council last Monday, in consequence of the receipt of large remittances. The labourers, of whom about 1000 are out of work, are very badly off; the council awarded 1s. 6d. to each labourer this week, which, with 3s. given last week, makes a total of 4s. 6d. for the sole means of support on which the majority had to rely. When they were in work they were unable, like the skilled artisans, to save their earnings being so much lower. About 800 of the society men in London received 15s., and about 170, 10s. The council gave £17 towards the support of the discharged boiler-makers. In Manchester and Oldham the number of men receiving relief amounted to 1968.

BANQUETS AT THE MANSION HOUSE.—On Wednesday evening the Court of Aldermen, the Recorder, the Sheriffs, and their ladies, were entertained at the Mansion House. Covers were laid in the Long Parlour for seventy; but, owing to indisposition, the Lady Mayoress was unable to be present. Yesterday the Lord Mayor, according to ancient custom, received at dinner the Master, Wardens, and Court of Assistants of the Fruiterers' Company, together with the deputy and Common Council of Coleman-street (his Lordship's) ward.

COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL.—In the course of the election of officers annually appointed by the Court, last Tuesday, a strong disposition was evinced to effect a reform in the sale of offices under the corporation, and to do away with the exactions of officials in the shifting or metage of corn and fruit. The report of the Improvements Committee was presented. The claims have amounted to £113,090 10s., which have been settled for £85,538 10s. Amongst many improvements in the streets and public ways, mention is made of the disposal of £42,469 3s. for improved dwellings and lodging-houses for the poor. The Lord Mayor acknowledged the receipt from the Royal Commissioners of the Exhibition medals for the corporation. Votes of 100 guineas each, in aid of the life-boat fund of the Shipwrecked Fishermen and Mariners' Royal Benevolent Society, and the Guardian Society Female Penitentiary, were passed.

LONDON AND GREENWICH RAILWAY.—The half-yearly meeting of this company was held on Tuesday at the offices in Coleman-street. W. Shadbolt, Esq., took the chair. The accounts were read, and from them it appeared that the amount available for a dividend was £9242 14s. 10d. The dividend of 4s. 3d. per share was agreed to.

CONSOLIDATED COPPER-MINES OF CORRE.—The half-yearly meeting was held on Tuesday, at the offices, Austin-friars, City; Mr. Russell Ellice in the chair. The report stated that owing to the very heavy rains and other causes there had been a deficiency in the quantity of produce since their last meeting. The state of their affairs enabled the directors to pay a dividend of £2 per share.

AFFAIRS OF FRANCE.—At a meeting on Tuesday, at the large hall, Cowper-street, City-road, strong resolutions were passed against the system of "lawless despotism now reigning supreme throughout Europe," and expressing sympathy for the cause of liberty abroad. General Haug, who it was stated had fought for freedom at Vienna and Rome, was one of the speakers.

EXPEDITION TO CENTRAL AFRICA.—The friends of this expedition will be glad to learn that supplies have been sent out to enable the travellers to undertake the important part of the journey from Bornou to the shores of the Indian Ocean. Lord Palmerston had liberally granted a further sum of £800 for the mission, after having received the interesting accounts of Dr. Barth's journey to Adamawa, and of Dr. Overweg's exploration of Lake Tsad and the Bidduna Islands. Instructions have been forwarded, too, by the Foreign-office to Captain Homerton, the British agent at Zanzibar, to supply all the wants of the travellers as soon as they shall make their appearance on the coast. Furthermore, a request of Dr. Overweg for a supply of certain English goods has been complied with, and a sum of £65 assigned for that purpose by the Foreign-office. The goods have already been carefully purchased, in accordance with the specific lists sent home by Dr. Overweg, and are now on their way to Africa.

THE WATER QUESTION.—On Tuesday the standing orders were declared to be complied with in the case of the several bills of the New River, the East London, the Chelsea, the Grand Junction, the Southwark and Vauxhall, the Lea River, the London and Watford, and the Wandle Companies. The objects of these bills are those of obtaining increased powers so as to make the water supply to the metropolis more efficient.

EARLY DELIVERY OF LETTERS.—The Postmaster-General has made arrangements for an early delivery of general post letters at Blackheath, Deptford, Greenwich, Hammersmith, Highgate, Lewisham, Peckham, and Stoke Newington. In a few days the morning delivery of general post letters at these places will, we are informed, be from an hour to two hours earlier than heretofore; and the deliveries will be earlier also, by about half an hour, at Woolwich.

FIRE.—On Tuesday morning, about eight o'clock, a fire broke out in the workshops of Mr. Foletti, picture-frame manufacturer, Banner-street, St. Luke's, which extended itself with so much rapidity, that the inmates only escaped by leaping from the windows. Mr. Foletti escaped with trifling injury, but his wife was terribly bruised, and, it is feared, her skull fractured. The adjoining houses were damaged. Two other dwellings were burnt down the same morning—one in Smithfield and the other at Holloway. Tuesday afternoon, shortly before four o'clock, the wife of Mr. E. Sntfield, aged 80, living in Everard-street, Whitechapel, was found enveloped in flames. After extinguishing the flames a medical gentleman was sent for, but she died in the course of a few minutes after the accident occurred. A spark from the fire grate, it is presumed, was the cause. No fewer than six fires occurred on Tuesday; but, although serious to the sufferers, were of no great extent. On Wednesday night an extensive fire happened on the premises of Messrs. Kay and Whiting, bookbinders, which communicated to the Oxford Arms public-house, in Warwick-lane. Every exertion was used to save Messrs. Kay and Co.'s property, but in two hours' the entire contents of the premises were destroyed. With the utmost difficulty the firemen saved the greater portion of the Oxford Arms Tavern; but the loss and damage to the premises must be considerable. Among the property destroyed is a great quantity belonging to the Religious Tract Society. The cause is unknown; but insurances are effected against loss to either party in the Imperial, National, and West of England offices. A fire, which resulted in the death of one person, and the narrow escape of two others, took place on Thursday night in a house in Welbeck-street, occupied by a Mr. Herndley, a house-painter.

QUARTERLY RETURN OF THE MARRIAGES, BIRTHS, AND DEATHS IN ENGLAND.—The marriages and births exceed the average number, and the deaths are also slightly above the average of the corresponding quarters. For the whole of the year 1851 the births have greatly exceeded the numbers in any previous year, and the mortality has been lower than it was in any of the ten years 1841-50, except 1843, 1845, and 1850. The births, deaths, and marriages show a balance of births and deaths, and an increase of families, which are only observed in a state of prosperity. The marriages in the quarter ending Sept. 30 were 74,310 persons. The rapid increase exhibited in the returns of 1851 over 1841 is ascribed to the increased population and increased disposition to marriage. The number is less than the June quarter, which is usually the case, and slightly less than that of 1850. In London the marriages in the quarter were 7345, or 583 more than in the 1850 quarter. In the last quarter 149,155 births were registered, and 616,251 in the year 1851; this is an excess of five per cent. equally distributed throughout the country. Emigration still continues: 59,200 persons left their homes and the ports of the United Kingdom in the last 92 days of the old year. 52,222 sailed from English ports, namely, 42,650 from Liverpool, 6252 from London, and 3360 from Plymouth; 1524 persons sailed from Glasgow and Greenock; and 5381 from Irish ports. A great proportion of these emigrants from Liverpool were of Irish birth. The mortality of the kingdom is above the average. In London 14,355 deaths were registered in the quarter, while only 12,956 were registered in the quarter of 1850.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS.—Up to the 21st inst. the weekly returns of births were 788 boys and 810 girls, in all 1598 children, the average number in seven corresponding weeks of 1845-51 being 1403. The deaths were—males, 528; females, 533; total, 1061. In the two previous weeks the numbers were successively 1111 and 1096; the last returns, therefore, show a continuous decline, though not to any considerable extent. On the corrected average of the increase of population, the average number of deaths in the ten corresponding weeks of 1842-51 shows a decrease of mortality in last week of 137. Epidemic diseases, taken collectively, exhibit an increase in the number of deaths; but in those of the respiratory organs there is a continued decline. Typhus numbers 41, smallpox 29, and scarlatina 37, about the same as last week, with a disposition to increase in smallpox, as the number of deaths is double the average. Hooping-cough carried off 49 children, measles only 5—a marked decline in the average; influenza 3; croup, 6; thrush, 6; erysipelas, 6; and diarrhoea, 18, of whom 13 were children. From bronchitis 102 have died, and 59 from inflammation of the lungs—the latter a very low average. Lambeth-square has produced much mortality. On an investigation by the Board of Health, the drainage was found bad, and all the houses over-populated, 434 persons living in thirty-five houses, of eight rooms each.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.—At the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, the mean daily height of the barometer was 30.213 in. on Sunday; the mean of the week was 29.638 in. The mean daily temperature was above the average of the corresponding days in ten years on every day of the week; it was highest on Tuesday, when it rose to 45.6 deg., or 8.1 deg. above the average; on the two following days it was about 43 deg., or six deg. above the average. The mean temperature of the week was 41.8 deg., which is 4.2 deg. above the average. The wind blew generally from the south-west.

SALE OF RARE BOOKS.—Messrs. Sotheby and Wilkinson have concluded a sale of some valuable books, among which may be enumerated—"L'Orloge de Sapience," an interesting ascetical romance, beautifully printed upon vellum, by Verard, and said to be unique, from the circumstance of its having sixteen miniatures, the five other known copies possessing only thirteen; it produced £45 10s. Blake's "Book of Urizen," containing twenty-seven of his singular designs in the manner of Fuseli, £8 15s. A large paper copy of Ashmole's "Order of the Garter," £11 11s. A fine copy of the "Biblia Polyglotta Waltoni," with Castell's Lexicon, and having the rare dedication to Charles II., £33. Dugdale's "Monasticon Anglicanum," by Caley, Ellis, and Bandinel, with Old St. Paul's, £44. Gough's "Sepulchral Monuments," a very choice copy, and remarkably free from the usual stains, £67 10s. The series of "Lodges' Portraits," on large paper, with brilliant proofs of the plates, £42. Nichols' "Bibliotheca Topographica Britannica," wanting some supplemental leaves, £33 10s. Montfaucon's "Antiquité Expliquée," on large paper, £33. "Il Vaticano e Campidoglio," containing a profusion of interesting plates, £30 10s.

THE ELECTRIC POLICE.—An electric shock was sent through the whole of the "suspected" population of Berlin on the night of the 20th," writes the correspondent of the Times on the 23d inst., "by way of experiment; and the telegraph in the hands of the police is likely to become its most active agent. All persons who have been, by legal sentence, placed under surveillance, as part of their punishment, are bound to sleep at home every night, and are liable to be visited at any time by order of the police, to discover whether they are not abroad for professional purposes. On the above night an order suddenly shot from the central police-office to all the *reciers* of the city at once to make an instant visitation of every 'suspected' person in each district. It was done forthwith, and all those not found at their respective addresses, according to the regulations, were arrested next day, and sent to the House of Correction. The dread of this visitation must continually hang over this portion of the population. As the district police themselves do not know of the order till the moment it is to be executed, the objects of the visit can possibly get no notice of it, which, it is said, sometimes used to occur."

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

THE KAFFIR WAR.—General Cathcart, accompanied by his staff, will take his passage for the Cape from Portsmouth in a few days in her Majesty's steam sloop of war *Hydra*, Commander Belgrave, which is about to proceed to the colony and to remain on that station. The new Minie rifles ordered for the Cape are not to be confined to the 43d Regiment, as stated, but will be distributed amongst the best marksmen of the different regiments engaged. First Lieutenant Arthur Charles Greville, of the 60th Rifles, serving at the Cape, is appointed second aide-de-camp to the Governor, General Cathcart. Three waggons loaded with ball cartridge, with 1 mounted sergeant, 1 trumpeter, 6 gunners and drivers, with 12 horses, and one non-commissioned officer, and 10 dismounted gunners as escort, left the Royal Arsenal on Saturday last, under the command of Lieutenant Barry, of the B field-battery, for the Bricklayers' Arms railway terminus, for conveyance by special train to Portsmouth, where they will be shipped on board the *Hydra* steam-sloop for the Cape of Good Hope. Major-General the Hon. George Cathcart arrived in town on Tuesday morning from Windsor Castle. The General had an interview with Earl Grey in the afternoon, at the Colonial-office.

THE DEFENCES OF THE COUNTRY.—Several gentlemen of the Stock Exchange have agreed to form a rifle club, to meet for practice at Woolwich, where the authorities have placed at their disposal proper space for firing. The subscription of members will be £2 2s per annum, of which £1 is to be appropriated to prizes for the best shots, and £1 is for general expenses. Each member is to provide himself with a rifle, and to pay for such ammunition as he may use. The committee will engage an eminent rifle-maker to supply efficient rifles at a moderate cost, and competent instructors in rifle-shooting will be on the ground when required. None but members or subscribers will be allowed to be present at the ordinary practice, but meetings will be fixed when members' friends may attend. The club to be managed by a committee selected by the members.

AUGMENTATION OF THE ARMY.—It is now certain that an augmentation of the army will take place. We understand that within the last few days orders have been issued to raise recruits in anticipation of this augmentation. This increase, it is now settled, will be in the infantry, and will, we hear, be effected by raising all regiments at home from 750 to 1000 rank and file each. Some other changes are to be made, but we understand that the entire augmentation will be about 10,000 men—no officers are, it is said, to be added. The measure in detail will be shortly published.—*Daily News.*

THE ENGLISH FLEET.—Orders are said to have been sent out recalling to England three of the principal ships composing the squadron now lying in the Tagus; and as many of the vessels which contribute to form our fleet in the Mediterranean.—*Daily News.*

A commission, consisting of Major-General Carden, of the Royal Engineers; Colonel Colquhoun, of the Royal Artillery; and Sir R. Belcher, R.N., has been appointed to examine and report on the state of the defences in the Channel Islands.

RUMOURD ARMING OF THE RURAL POLICE.—A rumour has obtained currency amongst the rural constabulary, within the last few days, that the Government have it in contemplation to arm the various bodies of the county police in this kingdom with guns and bayonets, after the manner of the Irish constabulary, and that the constables will in future be enlisted for a period of seven years.—*Manchester Courier.*

THE FRENCH ARMY.—The *United Service Gazette* has the following:—"It is rumoured in well-informed quarters that, in the budget to be presented to the French Legislature upon its assembling, a proposal will be made, emanating from the highest authority in the Republic, for the reduction of the French army. This, taken in connexion with the pacific tone of the circular to the European powers, ought to disarm apprehension."

THE "PRESERVED" MEAT.—The *Hecla*, arrived on Friday week at Portsmouth from the coast of Africa, has brought home 2477 lb. of Goldner's "preserved meats" to return—529 lb. from Ascension, and 1848 lb. from Sierra Leone. The character given this stuff by those who have been "condemned" to partake of it is worse than any yet ascribed to it.

NAVAL ARCHITECTURE.—The *Screw.*—The Admiralty have ordered the *Windsor Castle*, of 124 guns, now building at Pembroke, to be cut in two amidships, in order to introduce about 23 feet of midship body, and also to be lengthened abaft to receive the screw and engines of 780-horse power made by Mr. Robert Napier, of Glasgow, originally for the *Sinmoon*. The *Royal Albert*, 120, building at Woolwich, it is said, is also to be adapted for the screw, to be propelled by the engines of 620-horse power made by Seward for the *Euphrates*, thus bringing into us some of the engines of large power now lying on hand.

THE LOSS OF THE "AMAZON."

On Monday an official investigation was commenced at the Privy Council-office by the naval department of the Board of Trade (Captains Beechey, Walker, and Henderson), under the act 14th and 15th Vict., cap. 79, which came into force only a few days before the destruction of the *Amazon*. The act provides that, when it is apprehended that a vessel is lost, the owners are to give notice to the board, under a penalty of £50. Inspectors may be appointed to investigate the nature of accidents; and the 231 section enacts that an inspector, or any person being a member of the naval department of the board, in all cases of accident or damage, may make such inquiries, and require answers or returns thereto, as to the nature, circumstance, and causes of the same, as he shall think necessary, and by summons to require the attendance and examine upon oath all parties. Beyond ten miles, persons are to be first paid their expenses. The present investigation will include the seaworthiness of the vessel and the machinery. Capt. Beechey having explained the motive of the inquiry, Capt. Corry, the Admiralty Superintendent of Packets at Southampton, gave evidence as to the duties of inspection. He had to see to the mustering of the crew. From the Admiralty he had received the report that the boilers and machinery were in good order, and from the captain a paper as to the ship's equipment. He went over the *Amazon*, but did not muster the crew, as he was unable to attend on the 31st of December, and had sent another inspector. The *Amazon* seemed to him to have a very good crew, and quite sufficient in numbers. He had merely examined the fitness of the ship to go to sea, and had not inquired into the means provided on board for extinguishing fire. The state of the boilers and the bulkheads did not fall within his duty, nor could he say whether the painting of the woodwork had been finished when the ship left Southampton, or whether she had the proper complement of boats. Her draught of water was, he believed, 21 feet. He gave an unfavourable opinion of the keel cranes used, as in such an emergency the discipline of the naval service could alone prevent disastrous consequences resulting from the employment of them. Those who were in the boats were naturally afraid that others would take their places if they got out in order to clear them from these keel cranes. Captain Corry concluded by stating that he was unable to say whether there was any quantity of coal on deck when the *Amazon* left. He had never heard any evidence of a public impression at Southampton that the ship was unfit for sea when she started. During the remainder of the sitting, Captain Beechey and Captain Walker examined closely Angus M'Innes, engineer's storekeeper; Isaac Roberts, the boiler-maker; William Nutman, Thomas Allwood, Lieutenant Grylls, Mr. Neilson, and Mr. William Angus. They all adhered substantially to their previously published statements, the only point worth mentioning being that the origin of the flames between the starboard boiler and the bulkhead was more positively asserted than formerly, and that the causes which could have led to a fire there are involved in greater mystery than ever. The witness Allwood modified his previous evidence, so as to render it reconcilable with that of M'Innes, Roberts, and Angus. He now says that he first saw the flames coming from the stowage, but that they might have originated between the boiler and bulkhead beneath.

On Tuesday the inquiry was resumed. Charles Long, T. Dunford, J. Shearing, W. Stears, G. Deal, A. Long, G. Tapscott, and Mr. Vincent were examined, but no new facts were disclosed. Mr. Vincent was closely examined by the board as to his leaving the ship; as to the efforts he had used to save others when in the life boat; and, lastly, as to the steps he had taken when he had reached Plymouth. His replies were, that the captain had ordered the boats to be lowered, as there was no hope of saving the ship; that it was only when the life-boat was in peril that he gave up the attempt to near the ship; and that he conceived it to be his duty to leave Plymouth as quickly as possible, to report the loss of the steamer, leaving Messrs. Fox to look after the survivors, although his own impression, and that of those saved with him, was, that they alone had been saved.

On Wednesday the witnesses examined were Mr. Glennie, a passenger; Webb, Barryman, Pasmore, Brown, and Rogers, seamen; Jacob Alton, who had charge of the engines; and Fox, Stone, and Lammond, employed in the engine-room. Nothing new was elicited; but it appeared that a foreboding existed in nearly every mind, that some calamity would occur. The inquiry was adjourned till next Tuesday.

STORMS ON THE COAST.—SHIPWRECKS.

During the whole of Saturday and the succeeding night, and again on Monday and Tuesday, the Channel, and also the Yorkshire and Lancashire coasts, were swept by tempests which sometimes approached the violence of a hurricane, and were attended with fatal results both to life and property.

The gale of Saturday night was especially violent in the Channel. The new West India steamer *Orinoco*, on its passage from London to Southampton, experienced its full fury. The gale came on just as the *Orinoco* passed Dover. The sea washed over her funnels, and for three hours, although her engines were going at full speed, she was enabled to make but little way ahead. She took eight hours in running the twenty miles from the Foreland to Dangones. Not a person on board ventured to retire to rest during the whole night. She proved a splendid sea boat, or she could not have lived out the gale. She came up Southampton-water on Sunday afternoon after her fierce encounter with the hurricane of the preceding night in splendid style. (We shall engrave this fine vessel next week.) At Southampton it blew with tremendous fury the whole of Saturday night, so much so that the French mail boat from that port was unable to put to sea until the next morning. Serious disasters are reported as having occurred during the storm at different points of the coast. Between Cromer and Yarmouth, a fine brig, called the *Osiris*, Mr. Russell master, belonging to Stockton, on a voyage to the Thames from Hartlepool, encountered the formidable gale. She sprang a leak; and the most vigorous working of the crew at the pumps failed in reducing the water. Tremendous seas kept breaking over her, sweeping the decks, and car-

rying away everything moveable. As the evening advanced she lost her steerage, and, catching a heavy blast of wind, went over on her beam-ends, and instantly foundered in some eight or ten fathoms of water. The crew had not the least means of preserving themselves, and, with the exception of the master, every soul on board perished. Mr. Russell contrived to make his way up the rigging as the vessel was going down. He secured himself in the crossbeams, and after being in that position upwards of twelve hours he was taken off by the *Instant*, of Blyth, and landed near Yarmouth. When rescued he was in a most exhausted condition. Early on the morning of Saturday another deplorable catastrophe occurred on the same coast. The *Elizabeth*, Mr. Negus master, which was on a voyage from the Tyne to London, came in collision with a bark in ballast, and the bark within five minutes afterwards foundered in deep water with every soul on board. The *Elizabeth* took shelter in Whitby. The Kentish Knock, a formidable shoal some thirty miles from the entrance of the Thames, was the scene of a deplorable wreck. A schooner, named the *Anne and Elizabeth*, from Mogador to London, in beating up the Channel, was driven on the Knock, and the violent weather which was prevailing destroyed all chance of getting her off. She speedily became a wreck, and a passenger and the master were lost. The remainder of the crew and a second passenger were preserved by the *Alpha*, of Barking, which stood for Harwich, and landed them. During the gale the crew of the *Earl of Errol*, bound to Boulogne, which had sprung a leak and had foundered, sought refuge on the Kentish Knock light-vessel, and were subsequently conveyed to Deal. In the upper part of the Swin several sunken wrecks have been observed, but the fate of the crews has not transpired.

The accounts from the Welsh coast speak of the gale having been very destructive. The *Leeds* Dublin steam-ship was abandoned on Saturday, between Liverpool and Dublin, waterlogged, the crew and passengers having been taken off and brought to Liverpool by an American ship. She was sighted on Sunday morning about 25 miles N. by W. from the light-ship, not having then foundered.

The gale of Monday and Tuesday spent its fury chiefly on the Yorkshire coast, where there was a lamentable loss of valuable life also. At ten o'clock on Tuesday morning, a boat, manned by six beachmen, put off from Scarborough to the assistance of a ship in distress in the offing, and had scarcely passed the pier-head when she was capsized, and the whole of the crew perished. They have all left wives and families to deplore their loss. Not far from the same port, the *Joseph Fenton*, of Whitby, went down during the gale, but the crew succeeded in getting away in their boat, and were picked up several hours afterwards by a brig. In the neighbourhood of Orfordness a brig was lost; fate of the crew uncertain. Between the Ness and Aldborough, on the same morning, about two o'clock, the crew of the *Friendship*, Mr. Smith, bound to London from Inverkeithing, was with difficulty saved from the wreck. On Monday night, the *Frederick*, bound to Boulogne, took the ground near Thorp Ness, and became a wreck. The crew contrived to preserve themselves. Higher up, towards the northern coast, the *Groce*, from Sunderland, encountered the full fury of the storm some thirty or forty miles from Flamborough Head, and the crew had scarcely got away from the vessel in the boat ere she went down. Many other casualties are reported to have occurred in the vicinity of the northern ports.

Notwithstanding the protection from the weather usually found in the Downs, the gales seemed to have caused much damage to the shipping riding in that anchorage. Several large-sized vessels, foreign bound, slipped their anchors and chains, and, coming in contact with each other, sustained considerable damage. The ship *Ramifies*, for the Cape of Good Hope, was obliged to run back from the Duncannon Roads. Lower down the Channel the gale appears to have continued with uninterrupted severity. A large fleet took refuge in the Port and Roads, windbound.

ORIGINAL RECORD OF THE DISCOVERY OF AMERICA BY COLUMBUS, FOUND AT SEA.

The following statement, quoted in the *Times* of Thursday week, from a Savanna (United States) journal, has called forth the interesting corroborative testimony as to the genuineness of the relic which is appended to the statement itself, as given by the Savanna paper:—

Captain D'Auberville, of the bark *Chieftain*, of Boston, writes to the editor of the *Louisville Varieties*, that he put into Gibraltar on the 27th of August last to repair some damages, his vessel had sustained, and, while waiting, himself and two of his passengers crossed the straits to Mount Abylus on the African coast, to shoot, and pick up geological specimens. Before returning the breeze had freshened so much as to render it necessary to put more ballast into the boat, and one of the crew lifted what he supposed to be a piece of rock, but from its extreme lightness and singular shape was induced to call the attention of the captain to it, who first took it for a piece of pumicestone, but so completely covered with barnacles and other marine animalcules as to deny that supposition. On further examination he found it to be a cedar keg. On opening it he found a cocoanut, enveloped in a kind of gum or resinous substance; this he also opened, and found a parchment covered with Gothic characters, nearly illegible, and which neither he nor any one on board was able to decipher. He, however, found on shore an Armenian book-merchant, who was said to be the most learned man in Spain, to whom he took it, who, after learning the circumstances of its discovery, offered 300 dollars for it, which offer Captain D'Auberville declined. He then, says the letter, read word for word, and translated it into French as he read each sentence: it was a short but concise account of the discovery of Cathay, or further India, addressed to Ferdinand and Isabella of Castile and Aragon, saying the ships could not possibly survive the tempest another day; that they were between the Western Isles and Spain; that two like narratives were written and thrown into the sea, in case the *caravel* should go to the bottom, that some mariner might pick up one or the other of them. The strange document was signed by Christopher Columbus in a bold and dashing hand. It also bore the date of 1493, and consequently had been floating over the Atlantic 358 years. The letter closes with an assurance from the writer that he would guard his treasure safe until his return to the United States, which would be in April or May next.

(To the Editor of the Times.)

Sir,—In your paper of Thursday a paragraph was inserted, extracted from a Savanna (United States) journal, stating that an American captain had picked up on the African coast, near Mount Abylus, a singular relic—it being no less than a cedar keg, containing a parchment, upon which was found to be a short but concise account of the discovery of Cathay, or further India, written and signed by Christopher Columbus, and addressed to Ferdinand and Isabella. In an old volume of voyages in my possession I find the following passage, which distinctly alludes to the fact of the great geographical discoverer having prepared such a document, and, after depositing it in a cask, throwing it overboard, with a view of an account of his success reaching the knowledge of his Sovereign, had his vessels, as he anticipated, failed to survive the tempest they then encountered. Appended is an extract detailing the circumstances, which, if you think it worthy of a niche in your columns, is quite at your service.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

Lombard-street, Saturday evening.

D. MORIER EVANS.

"The admiral, being more skillful in reckoning, found their run 150 leagues less than the others. Thursday, the 12th February, 1493, the sea began to swell with great and dangerous storms, and he drove most of the night without any sail; afterwards he set a little sail. The waves broke and the ship laboured. The next morning the wind slackened, but on Wednesday night it rose again with dreadful waves, which hindered the ships' way so that he could not work them. The admiral kept under a maintop sail reefed, only to keep the ship to the wave; but, perceiving how great the danger was, he let it run before the wind, there being no other remedy. Then the *caravel* *Pinta* began to run and disappeared, though the admiral kept his light aboard the whole night, and the *Pinta* answered. Thursday, the 14th February, after sunrise, the wind blew fiercer, and they were more fearful of perishing, with the trouble of believing that the *caravel* *Pinta* was already lost. The admiral, finding himself near death, to the end that some knowledge might come to their Catholic Majesties of what he had done in their service, he wrote as much as he could of what he had discovered on a skin of parchment, and having wrapped it up in a piece of cercloth he put it into a wooden cask and cast it into the sea, all the men imagining it had been some piece of devotion, and presently the wind slackened. Friday, the 15th of February, they saw land ahead, bearing from them east-north-west. Some said it was the island Madeira, others that it was the rock of Cintra, near Lisbon; but the admiral always said they were the Islands Azores. They pled to and fro with much labour, but they could not come up with the island of St. Mary. The admiral's legs being very uneasy because he had been exposed to all the rain and cold, he slept a little, and on the 18th came to an anchor on the north side of the island, which they found to be St. Mary."

A RELIC OF THE "AMAZON."—The port life-boat of the unfortunate steam-ship *Amazon* was on Monday picked up and taken into Christchurch, and now remains in charge of the coast guard at that port. Both the larboard and starboard life-boats forward were stated to have caught the fire by many of the survivors who have already reached England; it is supposed, therefore, that the boat at Christchurch is the one in which Lieutenant Grylls and his party succeeded in getting clear of the *Amazon*, and had been sent adrift either from the Dutch galliot which picked up the party in the Bay of Biscay, or from the revenue cutter which received the thirteen persons from the Dutch vessel, and took them into Plymouth.

The steam-ship *Glasgow*, which sailed from the Clyde on the 10th inst., with 54 passengers and freight valued at £106,000, returned to Glasgow on Tuesday night. She was struck by a dreadful sea on the evening of Tuesday, the 20th inst., which carried away the starboard bulwarks, the wheelhouse, and a bulwark, and filled the saloon with three feet of water. Mr. Robertson, the second officer, was swept overboard and drowned. The first and third officers, the carpenter, and three of the crew were severely injured. Capt. Stewart, therefore, thought it prudent to return. The hull of the ship and engines are injured. There is another ship of nearly the same name, the *City of Glasgow*, which is now loading at Liverpool.

TELEGRAPH IN DENMARK.—The electric telegraph will shortly be laid down by the Danish Government, probably at the expense of the Oresund Administration Fund. It need not exceed from 150,000 to 200,000 rbl. The route will be underground from Rendsburg to Fredericia, across the Little Belt, over Fyen, thence under sea across the Great Belt, and then on to Copenhagen and Elsinore. A branch line will probably be afterwards laid down from Fredericia, on the east side of Jutland, to Aalborg. The importance of the whole

scheme to the British public, especially to the Copenhagen merchants and ship-owners, cannot be overrated. The arrival of vessels at the Sound, and orders as to the destination of their cargoes there, will then be reduced to a question of a few minutes, and will materially influence operations.

The trusteeship of the County Court of Hants has been conferred upon Mr. Brooks, of the firm of Lamb and Brooks, solicitors, of Odiham, North Hants.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS FOR THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

Heaviness again prevailed on Monday in the English Market; Consols, however, alternating during the day between 96 and 96½, closing at the last quotation, and consequently ½ in advance of the last price of the preceding week. Opening at the same rate on Tuesday, a demand for stock improved quotations to 96½; and no unfavourable news transpired to check this rise, which was not only maintained on Wednesday, but a further improvement to 96½ was quoted, the closing figures being 96½ for Money. On Thursday the market opened firmly, at 96½ for Money; but the news of the Marquis of Normandy having resigned his office of Ambassador to the French nation caused a reaction, Consols gradually receding to 96½ for Money. This feeling of heaviness has since pervaded the market, checking business. Exchequer Bills retain their former value, of 58s. to 61s. prem.; and Bank Stock is firm, at 217 to 216; India Bonds are also firm, at 69s. to 72s.; Reduced stock at 97½; and Three-and-a-Quarter per Cents, 95½; Consols for Account, 10th Feb., 96½.

Mexican was better on Monday, a communication having been received from M. Falconnet that he had succeeded in arranging for the payment of the January dividend. The stock rose from 29½ to 30½. Ecuador also improved 3½. Sardinian was 88½. The Spanish Committee Certificates are now dead in (need it be said, speculatively?) at 1½ per cent. Heaviness and an inactive market damped prices on Tuesday; Mexican declined to 29½ 30. Spanish New Deferred quoted 17½; but on Wednesday more activity prevailed, Mexican again improving to 30½ for money; Ecuador, 3½. On Thursday there were transactions only in Mexican, at 30½ 31; Ecuador, 3½; Grenada, Deferred, 4½; and Dutch Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 58½. The nominal price of Brazilian at the close of the week was 93; Portuguese Four per Cents, 33½; Russian Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 100½; Spanish Five per Cents, 23½; Three per Cents, 40½; New Deferred, 17½; Dutch Four per Cents, 90½.

Railway stock has been tolerably well supported, and the arrangement for the Account passed off with facility, tending rather to improve prices.

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—(For Account.)—Aberdeen, 11½; Caledonian, 15½; Chester and Holyhead, 19½; East Anglian (£25 paid), 3½; Eastern Counties, 7; Great Western, 8½; Lancaster and Carlisle, Thirds, 8 pm.; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 61½; London and Brighton, 98½; London and South-Western, 86½; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 31½; Midland, 55½; Newport, Abergavenny, and Hereford, 3½; North Staffordshire, 8½; South-Eastern, 20½; York, Newcastle, and Berwick, 17½; Ditto, Extension, 12½; York and North Midland, 21½.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Eastern Counties (No. 2), 3 pm.; Great Northern, Redeemable, 7½; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, New £10 Shares, 12½; York and North Midland, H and S Purchase, 8½.

FOREIGN.—Dutch Rhenish, 3½; Northern of France, 18½; Paris and Rouen, 26; Rouen and Havre, 10½.

An active business continues to be carried on in the gold-mine shares, although without any great fluctuation in prices, Agua Fria being done at 2½ p.; Anglo-Californian, 1 p.; Ave Maria, par; Golden Mountain, ½ p.; Nouveau Monde, ½ p.; Australian Freeholds, ½ p.; British Australian (the settlement for which is fixed for Monday next), par to ½ p.; Port Phillip, ½ p.; and Colonial Gold, ½ p.

THE MARKETS.

CORN-EXCHANGE.—During the present week the arrivals of English wheat up to our market, coastwise and by land carriage, have been unusually small; hence, the show of samples of both red and white has been limited in the extreme. For all kinds the demand has ruled somewhat brisk, at an advance in the quotations of 2s per quarter, and good clearances have been effected. Fine foreign wheats have realised 2s, and other qualities 1s per quarter more money, with a firm inquiry. The barley trade has continued active, at 1s to 2s per quarter more money. Malt has been held for higher rates. Oats have improved, value 6d to 1s per quarter. Beans and peas firm, and sale as dear. Indian corn about has changed hands freely, at a rise of 1s per quarter. A large business has been done in flour, at 2s to 3s per sack more money—the nominal top price of English having advanced to 4s per 280 lb.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 40s to 45s; ditto, white, 42s to 45s; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 40s to 44s; ditto, white, 42s to 45s; rye, 26s to 28s; grinding barley, 24s to 26s; distilling ditto, 24s to 27s; malting ditto, 26s to 30s; Norfolk and Lincoln, malt, 58s to 60s; brown ditto, 6s to 7s; Kingston and Ware, 55s to 57s; Chesham, 55s to 60s; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 19s to 22s; potato ditto, 21s to 25s; Youghal and Cork, black, 18s to 21s; ditto, white, 19s to 22s; tick beans, new, 25s to 30s; ditto, old, 26s to 30s; grey peas, 25s to 31s; mangel, 29s to 32s; white, 32s to 33s; boilers, 33s to 35s per quarter. Town-made flour, 38s to 43s; Suffolk, 32s to 36s; Stockton and Yorkshire, 32s to 36s per 280 lb. Foreign.—American flour, 20s to 24s per barrel. French, 30s to 36s per 280 lb.

The *Stock Market*.—Canary seed is in somewhat improved request, at a slight advance in the quotations. Linseed and rapeseed, as well as cakes, are quite as dear as last week. In other articles very little is doing.

Livestock, English, showing, 60s to 65s; Baltic, crushing, 44s to 47s; Mediterranean and Odessa, 44s to 50s; hempseed, 32s to 37s per quarter. Cornmeal, 3s to 11s per cwt. Brown muttons, 7s to 8s; white ditto, 6s to 7s; and lambs, 3s 6d to 4s 6d per bush. English muttons, new, 22l to 23l last of ten quarters. Lined cakes, English, 18s to 19s 0d; ditto, foreign, 15s 0d to 15s 5s per 1000. Rape cakes, 14s 2s to 14s 4s per ton. Canary, 37s to 39s per quarter.

Bread.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 6½d to 7d; of household ditto, 5d to 6d per 4 lb loaf.

Spirits.—Whisky, Scotch, 10s to 11s; Irish, 10s to 11s; rye, 10s to 11s; brandy, 10s to 11s.

Tea.—Although a large business is doing in most kinds of black tea, prices, owing to the immense stock in warehouse, have a downward tendency. Common sound Congou is offering freely at 8d per lb.

Sugar.—Our market has ruled somewhat firm this week, and late rates have been well supported. Good yellow 3s, Lucie and 3s to 34s; fine yellow Barbados, 32s to 34s; and good brown, 30s to 32s; fair yellow Mauritius, 30s to 34s; fine white Barbados, 24s to 27s; and fine white Madras, 30s to 34s per cwt. Refined goods are in fair request, at 43s 6d to 45s for low to fine grocery.

Coffee.—A few parcels of good ordinary native Ceylon have sold at 53s per cwt. Most plantation kinds are in fair request.

Almonds.—Our market is firm, and the quotations have an upward tendency.

Provisions.—For Irish butter we have a fair inquiry at full prices. Curlew, Clonmel, and Kilkenny, 7s to 8s; Waterford, 6s to 7s; Cork, 7s to 7½; Limerick, 6s to 7s per cwt. Both English and foreign qualities are quite as dear as last week. In bacon very little is doing, yet the late import in value is well supported. Waterford, 4s to 4½; Limerick, 4s to 4½; Dublin, 4s to 4½; fine Irish ham, 4s to 4½; and fine Irish ham, 4s to 4½.

Tallow.—Although the demand is tolerably firm, late rates are not supported. New P.Y.C. on the spot, is selling at 36s to 36s 3d; and old, 36s to 36s 9d per cwt. Town tallow, 36s to 36s 9d per cwt, no cash.

Oil.—Lined oil has declined to 25s 6d per cwt. In other respects, the trade is in a very depressed state.

Spirits.—Lecward Island rum moves off slowly, at 1s 4d to 1s 5d; and East India, 1s 3d to 1s 4d per gallon, proof. In brandy very little is doing, yet holders resort to accept lower rates. No change in corn spirits.

Coal.—Carrs War, 6d; Tapfield Moor Butts, 12s 9d; Gosforth, 10s 9d; Belmont, 16s 9d; Hutton, 17s 9d; and 18s 9d; Kellow, 17s 3d; Lons, 17s 6d per ton.

Hay and Straw.—New hay, 45s to 48s; old, 42s to 45s; clover ditto, 25s 5d to 25s 7s; and straw, 11s 6d to 11s 7d per load. Trade dull.

Hops.—Fine new hops are very scarce, and quite as dear as last week. Most other kinds move off steadily, at late rates. A few parcels have sold for export.

Wool.—Our market is somewhat active, notwithstanding that large public sales will take place next month. In most instances prices are very firm.

Butter.—The supply being in excess of the demand, dealers operate with caution, and late rates are barely supported. Present quotations vary from 9s to 9s 6d per ton.

Smithfield.—The general demand has been somewhat inactive this week, and in some instances prices have had a downward tendency.

Beef, from 24 6d to 2s 10d; mutton, 2s 10d to 4s 4d; veal, 3s 0d to 3s 10d; pork, 2s 6d to 3s 10d per lb, to sink the oil.

Vegetable and Lard.—Prime beef and mutton are in fair request, at full quotations. Otherwise the demand is in a sluggish state.

Beef, from 2s 2d to 3s 4d; mutton, 2s 6d to 3s 10d; veal, 3s 0d to 3s 10d; pork, 2s 6d to 3s 10d per lb, by the carcass.

ROBT. LIMEBURY.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, JAN. 27.

BANKRUPTS.

C BACON, Walton, Somersetshire, tailor. S BICKERTON, Liverpool, butcher. J BOXALL, Brighton, Sussex, coachmaker. W A COGAR, Newgate-street, City, and Quadrant, Regent-street, boot and shoe dealer. J COVLEND, Barnstaple, tea-dealer. W J FOULKES, Birkhead, Chesham, cruggat. H GLADWIN, Nottingham, crapper. G GULL and J D WILSON, Old Broad-street, City, Russia brokers. G HOPKINSON, Liverpool, coach-builder. W T and D LUGGHEK, Plymouth, iron-founders. L J NERICKX, Great Portland-street, Marylebone, laceman. W PLATT, Crawford-street, Marylebone, crapper. H OUND, Plymouth, builder. J J RAYNER, Manchester, tailor. W RUCK, Surrey-place, Surrey, printer. E TINSLEY, Cuddey Heath, Staffordshire, cooper. E WALKER, Huddersfield, Yorkshire, woolstapler. F WILKIN, Margate, Kent, tailor. W WOOD, Bristol, provision-merchant. H F WOLLASTON, Union-grove, Wandsworth-road, Surrey, merchant.

SCOTCH SQUENTRAHONS.

G BUCHANAN and G HOSS, Dogartland, Dalry, calico and shawl printers. A D CAMP BELL, Edinburgh, sharebroker. LIMERICK, Glasgow, smith. J M INOSH, Dundee, grocer. W MORRISON, Roundhill, Lanarkshire, farmer. A TEMPLETON, Dutch Mill, near Ayr, wool-spinner. J URE, Maryburgh-cottage, near Dingwall. J WHITEHEAD, Glasgow, mason.

BIRTHS.

At No 1, Calithness-street, Thurso, Scotland, on the 15th inst, Mrs McAdie, of a son.—On the 25th inst, the wife of J S Burn, Esq, Greville-place, Kilburn Priory, of a son.—On the 22d inst, the wife of Captain Congdon, Royal Marines, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Jan 27, at Upton-on-Severn, by the Rev Godfrey Goodman, cousin of the bride, assisted by the Rev H I Taylor, the Rev Thomas Wood Hayward, M A, to Emma Mary, only child of Gabriel Goodman, Esq.—On the 22d inst, the Rev A Lowy, minister of the West London Synagogue of British Jews, to Gertrude, daughter of the Rev J L Lindhead, secretary to the New Synagogue, Coventry.—On the 22d inst, the Rev Edward Ridgway, of Jesus College, Cambridge, to Blanche, second daughter of Sir Joseph Paxton, of Chiswick.—On the 20th inst, the Rev Robert Hake, of New College, to Octavia Francis, youngest daughter of W H Butler, Esq, of Oxford.—On the 22d inst, the Rev A G Woodward, of Faenza, second daughter of the late W C Davidson, of Brixton, Surrey.

DEATHS.

On the 8th Dec-mler, at Solent, in the *Crimson*, Colonel Upton, of the Imperial Russian Engineers, aged 67 years, deeply beloved by

NEW BOOKS, &c.

Will be ready with the Magazine for February, price 5s.
MEMOIRS OF EXTRAORDINARY POPULAR DELUSIONS. By CHARLES MACKAY, LL.D. With Illustrations from scarce prints and other authentic sources; forming two vols. of the National Illustrated Library. Office of the NATIONAL ILLUSTRATED LIBRARY, 227, Strand.

This day is published, 2mo, price 1s.
CRIME AND INSANITY; their Causes, Connection, and Consequences. How Distinguished and how Treated by Human Legislation. By C. M. BURNETT, M.D., Author of the "Philosophy of Spirit in Relation to Matter," "Insanity Tested by Science," &c.
 London: S. HIGHLEY, 32, Fleet-street.

LEBAHN'S GERMAN IN ONE VOLUME.
 Just published, Fourth Stereotype Edition, price 8s; with Key, 106d.
GERMAN IN ONE VOLUME, containing a Grammar, Exercises; Unlaid, a Tale, by Fougère; with Notes and a Vocabulary of 4500 Words synonymous in German and English. By R. FALCK LEBAHN.
 London: SIMPKIN, MARSHALL, and Co.

Just published, crown 8vo, price 5s, with six Engravings and numerous Woodcuts, elegantly bound.
MEMOIRS OF BENRHYDDING CONCERNING THE PLACE—ITS PEOPLE—ITS CURES. "This is the most handsome and well-embellished volume ever laid on our table." Besides much that is entertaining, it gives the only real scientific view of the Water Cure that we have met with, and presents it in a light that cannot fail to commend it to every unprejudiced mind. The Work is published from a sense of benefits received, and a desire to call attention to the community. "British Friend."
 London: CHARLES GILPIN, 5, Bishopsgate Without.

BOHN'S SCIENTIFIC LIBRARY FOR FEBRUARY.
PYE SMITH'S GEOLOGY AND SCRIPTURE, or, the Relation between the Holy Scriptures and some parts of Geological Science. Fifth Edition, with a Sketch of the Literary Life of the Author. By J. H. DAVIES, B.A. Post 8vo, cloth. 3s.
 HENRY G. BOHN, 4, 5, and 6, York-street, Covent-garden.

BOHN'S CLASSICAL LIBRARY FOR FEBRUARY.
PLATO, Vol. V., containing the LAWS. Translated by G. BURGESS, M.A. Post 8vo, cloth. 5s.
 HENRY G. BOHN, 4, 5, and 6, York-street, Covent-garden.

BOHN'S ILLUSTRATED LIBRARY FOR FEBRUARY.
LENN'S BATTLES OF THE BRITISH NAVY. New Edition, revised and enlarged by the Author; numerous fine Portraits engraved on steel. 2 vols, post 8vo. 5s per volume.
 HENRY G. BOHN, 4, 5, and 6, York-street, Covent-garden.

BOHN'S ANTIQUARIAN LIBRARY FOR FEBRUARY.
SIR THOMAS BROWNE'S WORKS, edited by S. WILKIN, F.L.S. Vol. 2. Post 8vo, cloth. 5s.
 HENRY G. BOHN, 4, 5, and 6, York-street, Covent-garden.

BOHN'S STANDARD LIBRARY FOR FEBRUARY.
SIR JOSIAH REYNOLDS'S LITERARY WORKS, with Memoir of the Author. By H. WILLIAM RECHERY. In two volumes. Vol. I, containing DISCOURSES on PAINTING, &c. Portrait. 3s. 6d.
 HENRY G. BOHN, 4, 5, and 6, York-street, Covent-garden.

BOHN'S ILLUSTRATED LIBRARY.
 In the Press.
KUGLER'S HISTORICAL MANUAL OF SCULPTURE, PAINTING, AND ARCHITECTURE, Ancient and Modern, with numerous Illustrations. 2 vols, post 8vo.
 HENRY G. BOHN, 4, 5, and 6, York-street, Covent-garden.

THE LATE J. M. W. TURNER, ESQ., R.A.
FRENCH, of 67, Paternoster-row, London, begs to inform all admirers of the Works of this great Painter, that a magnificent Engraving (21½ by 14½) of one of his best productions (the Town and Castle of Heidelberg) is presented Gratis to all Subscribers to PAYNE'S DRESSEN GALLERY, published in 45 parts, at 1s 15 divisions, at 3s; or complete in two 4to vols, handsomely gilt and lettered, price 22 15s.

Sixth Edition, 3s bound.
CLASS READING-BOOK. By GEORGE LUDLOW, Master in Christ's Hospital School. A Series of Papers in Prose and Verse, containing useful information for Young People on various subjects. The later editions have been enlarged by a Dictionary of Scientific Terms.
 London: JOHN W. PARKER and SON, West Strand.

Eighth and Cheaper Edition, 3s, 6d.
HISTORY OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH, from the Ascension of Jesus Christ to the Conversion of Constantine. By the late Professor BURTON, of Oxford.
 London: JOHN W. PARKER and SON, West Strand.

Foolscap octavo, 4s.
LE TELLIER'S FRENCH GRAMMAR, practically adapted for English Teaching. By J. F. WATTEZ, one of the French Masters, King's College School, London.
 Second Edition, 2s 6d.

COLLOQUIAL EXERCISES ON THE MOST FAMILIAR IDIOMS OF THE FRENCH LANGUAGE. By J. F. WATTEZ.
 London: JOHN W. PARKER and SON, West Strand.

FRENCH CLASSICS: abridged in an entirely new form; and graciously permitted by her Majesty to be used as Educational Works for the instruction of the Royal Children of England. By MARIN DE LA VOYE, late French Master at Addiscombe.
 TELEMACHUS. 2s 6d. | PIERRE LE GRAND. 2s.
 VOYAGES DE CYRUS. 2s. | CHARLES XII. 2s.
 BELISAIRES. 16d. | GIL BLAS. 4s.
 London: JOHN W. PARKER and SON, West Strand.

Second Edition, Revised, 3s 6d.
PRACTICAL EXERCISES ON FRENCH PHRASEOLOGY; with a Lexicon of Idiomatic Verbs. By ISIDORE BRASSEUR, Professor of the French Language and Literature in King's College, London, and the Charter-house.
 London: JOHN W. PARKER and SON, West Strand.

With numerous Illustrations, 2s 6d each.
USEFUL ARTS EMPLOYED IN THE PRODUCTION OF FOOD.
USEFUL ARTS EMPLOYED IN THE PRODUCTION OF CLOTHING.
USEFUL ARTS EMPLOYED IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES.
 London: JOHN W. PARKER and SON, West Strand.

Fifth Edition, 2s.
FRENCH POETRY: Selected, with Notes. By the late L. T. VENTOUILLAC, Professor of French in King's College.
 By the same.
LIVRE DE CLASSE; with English Notes. Second Edition. 5s.

RUDIMENTS OF THE FRENCH LANGUAGE; or, First French Reading Book. Second Edition, Revised. 3s 6d.
 London: JOHN W. PARKER and SON, West Strand.

Third and Cheaper Edition, with 143 Woodcuts, 2s.
NATURAL PHILOSOPHY FOR BEGINNERS.
 Third Edition, with numerous Woodcuts, 3s, f
EASY LESSONS IN MECHANICS.
 London: JOHN W. PARKER and SON, West Strand.

With many Woodcuts, 1s 6d each.
BOOK OF ANIMALS. Ninth Edition.
BOOK OF BIRDS. Sixth Edition.
BOOK OF FISHES. Fifth Edition.
BOOK OF REPTILES. Fourth Edition.
BOOK OF SHELLS. Fourth Edition.
 London: JOHN W. PARKER and SON, West Strand.

Third Edition, strongly bound, 6s.
SCHOOL HISTORY OF ENGLAND, abridged from GLEIG'S "Family History of England," with copious Chronology, List of Contemporary Sovereigns, and Questions for Examination.
 "The best of the numerous class especially written for instruction."
 Quarterly Review.
 London: JOHN W. PARKER and SON, West Strand.

Fifth Edition, with a new Supplementary Chapter, 10s 6d.
STUDENT'S MANUAL OF MODERN HISTORY. By W. COOKE TAYLOR, LL.D.
 By the same Author.
STUDENT'S MANUAL OF ANCIENT HISTORY. Fifth Edition. 10s 6d.

HISTORY OF MOHAMMEDANISM. Cheaper Edition, 4s.
HISTORY OF CHRISTIANITY. 6s 6d.
 London: JOHN W. PARKER and SON, West Strand.

BOOKS FOR SCHOOLS AND FAMILIES, WITH EXAMINATION QUESTIONS ON EACH CHAPTER.
OUTLINES OF HISTORY OF ENGLAND. Cheaper Edition, 1s.
OUTLINES OF HISTORY OF IRELAND. 1s.
OUTLINES OF HISTORY OF FRANCE. Second Edition, 1s 3d.

OUTLINES OF ROMAN HISTORY. Eleventh Edition, 10s.
OUTLINES OF GRECIAN HISTORY. Tenth Edition, 1s.
OUTLINES OF SACRED HISTORY. Cheaper Edition, 2s 6d.
OUTLINES OF HISTORY OF BRITISH CHURCH. Fourth Edition, 1s 6d.
OUTLINES OF GEOGRAPHY. Twenty-fourth Edition, 10s.

OUTLINES OF PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY. 10s.
OUTLINES OF ASTRONOMY. Thirteenth Edition, 10s.
 London: JOHN W. PARKER and SON, West Strand.

NEW BOOKS.

GROTE'S HISTORY OF GREECE.
 Now ready, Third Edition, with Maps, 8vo, 16s each.
HISTORY OF GREECE. From the Earliest Period down to the Accession of Philip of Macedonia. B.C. 403-339. By GEORGE GROTE, Esq. Vols I to X.
 * * * Vols IX and X are just ready.
 JOHN MURRAY, Albemarle-street.

On December 6th, 2 vols, 8vo, 30s.
HISTORY OF ENGLAND, from the PEACE OF UTRECHT. By LORD MAHON. Vols V and VI. The First Years of the American War: 1763-80.
 JOHN MURRAY, Albemarle-street.

Now ready, with Portraits, 3 vols, 8vo, 42s.
LIVES OF THE FRIENDS AND CONTEMPORARIES OF LORD CHANCELLOR CLARENDON. Illustrative of Portraits in his Gallery; with an Account of the Origin of the Collection, and a Descriptive Catalogue of the Pictures. By LADY THERESA LEWIS.
 JOHN MURRAY, Albemarle-street.

Now ready, 2 vols, 8vo, 32s.
THE GRENVILLE PAPERS: from the Archives at Stowe; being the Private Correspondence of Richard Grenville, Earl Temple, and George Grenville, their Friends and Contemporaries, including Mr. Grenville's Political Diary. Edited by WILLIAM JAMES SMITH, formerly Librarian at Stowe. (To be completed in Four Volumes.)
 JOHN MURRAY, Albemarle-street.

Now ready, with 300 Woodcuts, post 8vo, 7s 6d.
THE ANTIQUITIES IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM. Being a Description of the Remains of Greek, Assyrian, Egyptian, and Etruscan Art preserved there. By W. S. W. VAUX, F.S.A., Assistant in the Department of Antiquities, British Museum.
 JOHN MURRAY, Albemarle-street.

SIR CHARLES LYELL'S WORKS.
 This day, Fourth Edition, revised, with an additional Chapter, and 520 Woodcuts, 8vo, 12s.
A MANUAL OF ELEMENTARY GEOLOGY; or, the Ancient Changes of the Earth and its Inhabitants, as illustrated by its Geological Monuments. By SIR CHARLES LYELL, F.R.S.
 * * * The Additional Chapter may be procured separately, price 6d.

Lately published, by the same,
PRINCIPLES OF GEOLOGY. Eighth Edition. Woodcuts, 8vo, 18s.
TRAVELS IN NORTH AMERICA, 1841-42. Map and Plates. 2 vols, post 8vo, 21s.
SECOND VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES, 1845-46. Second Edition. 2 vols, post 8vo, 18s.
 JOHN MURRAY, Albemarle-street.

MURRAY'S MODERN COOKERY.
 Now ready, printed in a large clear type, with 100 Illustrative Woodcuts, post 8vo, 6s, strongly bound.
MODERN DOMESTIC COOKERY, Founded upon principles of Economy and Practical Knowledge, and adapted for the use of the Middle and Lower Classes. "No Housekeeper ought to be without this book, which is adapted to every grade of society—the rich, the middle classes, and the poor."—Durham Advertiser.

The value of "Murray's Modern Domestic Cookery" consists in its plainness and practicality. The experimental and impracticable character of the fashionable cook books is remedied, and it is to be feared that a great deal too much of the national time would be wasted in calumny trifling. For the honour of British cooks, and for the comfort of British digestion, Mr. Murray comes forward to the rescue."
 Literary Gazette.

"One of the most practically useful books we have seen on the subject."
 British Critic.
 JOHN MURRAY, Albemarle-street.

MURRAY'S ILLUSTRATED PRAYER-BOOK.
 Now ready, illustrated with Ornamental Borders, Initial Letters, and Engravings from the Old Masters, one volume, crown 8vo, 21s in antique cloth.
THE BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER, and Administrations of the Sacraments and other Rites and Ceremonies of the Church. Edited, with Notes and Illustrations, by Rev THOMAS JAMES, M.A., Vicar of Sibbertoft and Theddlethorpe, and Examining Chaplain to the Bishop of Bath and Wells.

Not surpassed by the life-engrossing, laborious productions of those good old transcribers in cloistered cells of the past."—The Morning Post.
 "It is impossible to speak too highly of the exceeding beauty of this work."
 Cambridge Chronicle.
 * * * May also be had in antique calf, or morocco.
 JOHN MURRAY, Albemarle-street.

Now ready, Fourth Edition, post 8vo, 15s.
VISITS TO THE MONASTERIES OF THE LEVANT. By the Hon. ROBERT CURZON, jun. With numerous Illustrations.
 "This work is a most welcome addition to the stock of 'Travels in the East,' and chiefly because it differs essentially from any which have ever before fallen under our notice, whether the subject-matter or the mode of handling it be considered. It treats of thoroughly out-of-the-way and almost untrodden spots and scenes, and in detailing the adventures which befel him in his rambles in the East in quest of ancient manuscripts, the author has contrived to present to the reader some eight-and-twenty chapters of most agreeable writing, replete with information on most interesting points. The result is this delectable book, a bright and lively emanation from a happy and a cheerful mind."—Times.

JOHN MURRAY, Albemarle-street.

Now ready, Sixth Edition, corrected, and improved by the insertion of all the authorities, 1 volume 8vo, 12s.
THE BOOK OF THE CHURCH. By the late ROBERT SOUTHEY, LL.D.
 "Contains a most interesting sketch of a subject which, to the generality of readers, is almost unknown; and, as it cannot fail to be popular, from the beauty of its execution, will, I trust, have the effect of turning the attention of many persons who have hitherto been indifferent to such matters, through ignorance, to the nature of the dangers which have been secured to it, through the National Church Establishment."—Archbishop Howley to the Author.

JOHN MURRAY, Albemarle-street.

Now ready, 2 vols, 12mo, 18s.
THE HEIRESS IN HER MINORITY. A Work for Young Persons; or, the Progress of Character. By the Author of "Bertha's Journal during a Visit to her Uncle in England."
 "In this work there is a due admixture of religious instruction of a higher class—more practical, and evincing a greater degree of learning than in most works of the same stamp. On the whole, the book is a small, readable, compressed cyclopædia, with a copious index and distinct chapter headings, and a happy and happy analogy to the restlessness hours of a wet day in a country house, "when the ball" are forbidden, the skipping-rope is laid aside, and the graces, battles, and a shuttlecock, and other amusements of the same genus, are impossible. Then take up these green-covered volumes, ye rosy cheeks, and sit down in the broad bow-window to read in the beauty of the book, and the book, and the glorious flowers, which the "Heiress" brings before ye."—Morning Chronicle.

JOHN MURRAY, Albemarle-street.

MR. GORDON CUMMING'S ADVENTURES.
 Now ready, Third Edition, 2 vols, post 8vo, 24s.
FIVE YEARS' LION HUNTING IN SOUTH AFRICA; with Adventures amongst the Wild Beasts and Forests of the Far Interior. By R. GORDON CUMMING, Esq., of Altyre. With numerous Illustrations of the Chase.
 "After testing, where such test was applicable, every fact recorded by Mr. Cumming regarding the habits and actions of the living animals by what is known of their anatomy and structure, we have found his statements, with one unimportant exception, to stand that test; and his very ignorance of the organisation, which would suggest to the physiologist the habits and actions portrayed in the book, gives the testimony to the accuracy of the hunter's sketches."—Quarterly Review.

"We feel bound to say that we give entire credit to the truthfulness of the book, which is assuredly one of extraordinary interest after its kind."—Quarterly Review.
 "The style is so natural and fresh from the scene, the scene itself in the far interior of Africa so new, and the hazards attending the chase of the formidable beasts of those wilds so great, that it is difficult to lay the volume down without the desire to follow the author, as they rapidly follow one another, has been ascertained. In fact, the narrative has the charm of a vivid romance; and the professed novelist may study with profit the native spring of its sinewy style."—Quarterly Review.

Also, by the same Author,
1. A FAGGOT OF FRENCH STICKS. 2 vols. Post 8vo.
2. STOKERS AND POKERS; or, the North-Western Railway and Britannia Tubular Bridge. Post 8vo. 2s 6d.
3. THE EMIGRANT. Post 8vo. 12s.
4. BUBBLES FROM THE BRUNNEN OF NASSAU. 16mo. 5s.

JOHN MURRAY, Albemarle-street.

SIR FRANCIS B. HEAD'S WORKS.
 Now ready, post 8vo, 12s.
ON THE DEFENCELESS STATE OF GREAT BRITAIN. Consisting of a Series of Sketches:—
 1. Military Warfare. 2. The Capture of London. 3. Naval Warfare. 4. The Treatment of Women in War. 5. How to Defend Great Britain. 6. How to Defend Great Britain.

"The subject which Sir Francis Head has introduced to his countrymen is one of great importance, and has long been felt by the most sagacious thinkers and experienced politicians to be of the deepest interest to the future safety of our country."—United Service Magazine.

Also, by the same Author,
1. A FAGGOT OF FRENCH STICKS. 2 vols. Post 8vo.
2. STOKERS AND POKERS; or, the North-Western Railway and Britannia Tubular Bridge. Post 8vo. 2s 6d.
3. THE EMIGRANT. Post 8vo. 12s.
4. BUBBLES FROM THE BRUNNEN OF NASSAU. 16mo. 5s.

JOHN MURRAY, Albemarle-street.

Now ready, 2 vols, 12mo, 18s.
THE HEIRESS IN HER MINORITY. A Work for Young Persons; or, the Progress of Character. By the Author of "Bertha's Journal during a Visit to her Uncle in England."
 "In this work there is a due admixture of religious instruction of a higher class—more practical, and evincing a greater degree of learning than in most works of the same stamp. On the whole, the book is a small, readable, compressed cyclopædia, with a copious index and distinct chapter headings, and a happy and happy analogy to the restlessness hours of a wet day in a country house, "when the ball" are forbidden, the skipping-rope is laid aside, and the graces, battles, and a shuttlecock, and other amusements of the same genus, are impossible. Then take up these green-covered volumes, ye rosy cheeks, and sit down in the broad bow-window to read in the beauty of the book, and the book, and the glorious flowers, which the "Heiress" brings before ye."—Morning Chronicle.

JOHN MURRAY, Albemarle-street.

MR. GORDON CUMMING'S ADVENTURES.
 Now ready, Third Edition, 2 vols, post 8vo, 24s.
FIVE YEARS' LION HUNTING IN SOUTH AFRICA; with Adventures amongst the Wild Beasts and Forests of the Far Interior. By R. GORDON CUMMING, Esq., of Altyre. With numerous Illustrations of the Chase.
 "After testing, where such test was applicable, every fact recorded by Mr. Cumming regarding the habits and actions of the living animals by what is known of their anatomy and structure, we have found his statements, with one unimportant exception, to stand that test; and his very ignorance of the organisation, which would suggest to the physiologist the habits and actions portrayed in the book, gives the testimony to the accuracy of the hunter's sketches."—Quarterly Review.

"We feel bound to say that we give entire credit to the truthfulness of the book, which is assuredly one of extraordinary interest after its kind."—Quarterly Review.
 "The style is so natural and fresh from the scene, the scene itself in the far interior of Africa so new, and the hazards attending the chase of the formidable beasts of those wilds so great, that it is difficult to lay the volume down without the desire to follow the author, as they rapidly follow one another, has been ascertained. In fact, the narrative has the charm of a vivid romance; and the professed novelist may study with profit the native spring of its sinewy style."—Quarterly Review.

Also, by the same Author,
1. A FAGGOT OF FRENCH STICKS. 2 vols. Post 8vo.
2. STOKERS AND POKERS; or, the North-Western Railway and Britannia Tubular Bridge. Post 8vo. 2s 6d.
3. THE EMIGRANT. Post 8vo. 12s.
4. BUBBLES FROM THE BRUNNEN OF NASSAU. 16mo. 5s.

JOHN MURRAY, Albemarle-street.

Now ready, 2 vols, 12mo, 18s.
THE HEIRESS IN HER MINORITY. A Work for Young Persons; or, the Progress of Character. By the Author of "Bertha's Journal during a Visit to her Uncle in England."
 "In this work there is a due admixture of religious instruction of a higher class—more practical, and evincing a greater degree of learning than in most works of the same stamp. On the whole, the book is a small, readable, compressed cyclopædia, with a copious index and distinct chapter headings, and a happy and happy analogy to the restlessness hours of a wet day in a country house, "when the ball" are forbidden, the skipping-rope is laid aside, and the graces, battles, and a shuttlecock, and other amusements of the same genus, are impossible. Then take up these green-covered volumes, ye rosy cheeks, and sit down in the broad bow-window to read in the beauty of the book, and the book, and the glorious flowers, which the "Heiress" brings before ye."—Morning Chronicle.

JOHN MURRAY, Albemarle-street.

MR. GORDON CUMMING'S ADVENTURES.
 Now ready, Third Edition, 2 vols, post 8vo, 24s.
FIVE YEARS' LION HUNTING IN SOUTH AFRICA; with Adventures amongst the Wild Beasts and Forests of the Far Interior. By R. GORDON CUMMING, Esq., of Altyre. With numerous Illustrations of the Chase.
 "After testing, where such test was applicable, every fact recorded by Mr. Cumming regarding the habits and actions of the living animals by what is known of their anatomy and structure, we have found his statements, with one unimportant exception, to stand that test; and his very ignorance of the organisation, which would suggest to the physiologist the habits and actions portrayed in the book, gives the testimony to the accuracy of the hunter's sketches."—Quarterly Review.

"We feel bound to say that we give entire credit to the truthfulness of the book, which is assuredly one of extraordinary interest after its kind."—Quarterly Review.
 "The style is so natural and fresh from the scene, the scene itself in the far interior of Africa so new, and the hazards attending the chase of the formidable beasts of those wilds so great, that it is difficult to lay the volume down without the desire to follow the author, as they rapidly follow one another, has been ascertained. In fact, the narrative has the charm of a vivid romance; and the professed novelist may study with profit the native spring of its sinewy style."—Quarterly Review.

Also, by the same Author,
1. A FAGGOT OF FRENCH STICKS. 2 vols. Post 8vo.
2. STOKERS AND POKERS; or, the North-Western Railway and Britannia Tubular Bridge. Post 8vo. 2s 6d.
3. THE EMIGRANT. Post 8vo. 12s.
4. BUBBLES FROM THE BRUNNEN OF NASSAU. 16mo. 5s.

JOHN MURRAY, Albemarle-street.

NEW BOOKS, &c.

MURRAY'S READING FOR THE RAIL.
 This day, with numerous Woodcuts, post 8vo, 5s.
DR. LAYARD'S OWN NARRATIVE OF HIS DISCOVERIES AT NINEVEH. Arranged by Himself for popular circulation.
 "The various attempts that have been made to give popular descriptions of Mr. Layard's great discoveries have taught him and his publisher the necessity of placing an account of them in a popular form before the public. Well has he executed the task, and well has the publisher brought the work before the public."—Economist.

Mr. Layard was induced to undertake this publication on account of the great curiosity excited by his discoveries, and the great eagerness evinced by the public to pursue an authentic account of them."—Morning Herald.
 JOHN MURRAY, Albemarle-street.

PARIS, 1881.
 This day, 2 vols, post 8vo, 24s.
A FAGGOT OF FRENCH STICKS. By the Author of "Bubbles from the Brunnen of Nassau."
 "Sir Francis Head, collecting gaffs and gaffs, neglected his friends, and passed his three weeks of May in visiting the public buildings, institutions, museums—in short, everything that was worth seeing in the French capital and its suburbs. To see so much, in so short a time, and not to say, early rising, and no small degree of activity. He took with him to his task the kindly spirit and minute observation for which he is distinguished, and, on his return to England, cast his notes and reminiscences into volumes, summoning to his aid the easy, cheerful style and sly humour which have long since earned him a name to sound reverently in the ears of all lovers of a genial and amusing book. We rejoice that this book is one we can honestly praise."—Literary Gazette.

JOHN MURRAY, Albemarle-street.

LORD BYRON'S LIFE AND WORKS.
 With Portraits and Vignettes, royal 8vo, 12s.
THE COMPLETE POETICAL WORKS OF LORD BYRON, with Notes and Illustrations, in One Volume.
 Also the following Editions:—

LIFE AND LETTERS. One volume. Royal 8vo. 12s.
POETICAL WORKS. 10 vols. fcap 8vo. 30s.
CHILD HAROLD. 24mo. 2s 6d.
ILLUSTRATED. 8vo. 21s.
TALES AND POEMS. 2 vols. 24mo. 5s.
DRAMAS. 2 vols. 24mo. 5s.
MISCELLANIES. 3 vols. 24mo. 7s 6d.
DON JUAN. 2 vols. 24mo. 5s.

* * * As Mr. Murray is the sole Proprietor of the Copyright of Lord Byron's Works, no Edition is complete except it be published by him. The Public are, therefore, cautioned against the spurious Copies exposed for sale.
 JOHN MURRAY, Albemarle-street.

NEW WORK BY THE AUTHOR OF "ROSE DOUGLAS."
 Just published, in 2 vols, post 8vo.
THE TWO FAMILIES: an Episode in the History of Chastelot. By the Author of "Rose Douglas."
 London: SMITH, ELDER, and Co, 65, Cornhill.

Just published,
PICTURES OF LIFE IN MEXICO. By R. H. MASON, Esq. Two volumes, post 8vo, with Etchings, 21s cloth.
 London: SMITH, ELDER, and Co, 65, Cornhill.

THE YOUNG CHYMIST; or, Scientific Recreations for Youth. Containing several hundred attractive and interesting Experiments in various branches of Science, all of which may be performed with perfect safety in the Parlor or Drawing-room. 1s; free by post, 1s 6d.—W. S. JONSON, 60, St. Martin's-lane (where can be had the "Home Circle," 10s); and all Booksellers.

Just published, in cloth, 6s.
CHEMICAL EXPERIMENTS; Illustrating the Theory, Practice, and Application of the Science of Chemistry; and containing the Properties, Uses, Manufacture, Purification, and Analysis of all Inorganic Substances, with numerous Engravings of Apparatus, &c. By G. FRANCIS, F.R.S.
 J. ALLEN, 20, Warwick-lane, Paternoster-row; and all Booksellers.

THE PULPIT, Vol. LX., Ninety Sermons, 7s 6d. 151 Sermons, by the Rev HENRY MELVILLE, 3 vols, 21s. "The Crystal Palace of the Great King," last Christmas Sermon to Children, by Dr. FLETCHER, 1d, or 6s per hundred.
 Pulpit Office, Glasshouse-yard.

PRIZE ESSAY ON TIC DOULOUREUX.—8vo, cloth, 10s 6d.
NEURALGIA; its Various Forms, Pathology, and Treatment; being the Jacksonian Prize Essay of the Royal College of Surgeons on that subject. With numerous Cases. By C. T. DOWNING, M.D.
 "We know of no work which can be compared to this on the subject to which it is devoted."—Archibald's Medical Review.
 CHURCHILL, Publisher, Prince-street, 80ho; and of all Booksellers.

Lately published by William Leouis, price 1s 6d, bound,
THE PRINCIPLES OF ENGLISH GRAMMAR, with a sufficient number of Exercises in Parsing and Syntax. This is not a mere outline, but a complete Grammar, now used in all the Principal Boarding Schools, Academies, and Colleges in Great Britain, Ireland, America, and the Colonies. Those who have not yet seen this book will do well to examine it.
 II. A KEY to the above; containing, besides additional Exercises in Parsing and Syntax, many critical and valuable Remarks, Hints, and Observations, on the best method of teaching Grammar, that by a grown-up person may easily make himself master of Grammar in half the usual time, though unacquainted with it before. A New Edition. Price 3s 6d, bound. Grammar and Key, bound together, 8s. Sold by all Booksellers.

THE NATIONAL ILLUSTRATED LIBRARY.
 IN MONTHLY VOLUMES,
 Containing 320 Pages and 60 Engravings,
 Price 2s 6d, crown 8vo, handsomely bound in cloth, top edges gilt,
 WORKS ALREADY PUBLISHED:—

1. TO 4. BOSWELL'S LIFE OF DR. JOHNSON, complete in 4 vols, with numerous Portraits, Views, and Characteristic Designs, unrivalled from authentic sources. Handsomely bound, 4 vols in 2, calf half extra, marbled edges, 18s.
 5. THE BOOK OF ENGLISH SONGS, from the Sixteenth to the Nineteenth Century. With 50 Engravings from Original Designs.

6. THE MORMONS; or, Latter-day Saints: an Account of the Rise and Progress of this Religious Sect. Illustrated with 40 Engravings from original sources.
 7. THE ORBS OF HEAVEN; or, the Planetary and Stellar Worlds. A Popular Exposition of the Great Discoveries and Theories of Modern Astronomy. Illustrated with Nebulae, Portraits, Views, Diagrams, &c.

8. PICTURES OF TRAVEL IN THE SOUTH OF FRANCE, from the French of ALEXANDRE DUMAS. With 50 spirited Engravings on Wood. Unabridged edition.
 9. HUC'S TRAVELS IN TARTARY, THIBET, and CHINA, in 1844-5. Vol. I. Translated by W. HAZLITT. With numerous Maps, Illustrations, and a Map of the Countries, clearly illustrating the Route of MM. Huc and Gabet.

10. A WOMAN'S JOURNEY ROUND THE WORLD. From the German of Madame PFEIFFER. In one volume. Unabridged edition, with full-sized Page Engravings, printed in two parts.
 FEBRUARY VOLUMES.

11 and 12. MEMOIRS OF EXTRAORDINARY POPULAR DELUSIONS. By CHARLES MACKAY, LL.D. Illustrated from scarce prints and other authentic sources.
 In a few days will be ready, the Second Edition of
THE LIFE OF GENERAL WASHINGTON, first President of the United States: written by Himself. Comprising his Memoirs and Correspondence, as prepared by him for publication; including several original Letters now first printed. Edited by the Rev C. W. LELAND. 2 vols, post 8vo, with Engravings of Portraits of Washington and Franklin, with Vignette title-piece. Cloth gilt, 7s. The same, elegantly bound in calf half-extra, price

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS



VOL. XX.]

FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY JANUARY 31, 1852.

[GRATIS.]

DESTINY:

OR, THE DREAM OF DEATH.

BY MAHMOUZ EFFENDI.

"There are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio,
Than are dreamt of in thy philosophy."—HAMLET.

"Dreams are toys; yet for this once, yea
Superstitiously, I will be squared by this."—WINTER'S TALE.

"How now? even so quickly may one catch the plague."

TWELFTH NIGHT.

ABOUT fifteen years ago the plague raged intensely in the Levant. Among other places, the city of Smyrna suffered much from this scourge, which is known to the natives of Anadoli by the name of the Yournaljak. But heavy as the visitation undoubtedly was, Smyrna may still be considered as, perhaps, somewhat

favoured by Destiny, since, looking to certain Consular Bills of Mortality, the Angel of Death seems at the time in question to have passed in a rather more merciful mood over the meandering banks of the Meles than along the Nile in the south, or the Golden Horn in the north. Yet, as we have already declared, Smyrna suffered much, very much.

The wild and extensive flat, and low open ground—situate to the eastward of Windmill Point—and scarcely indeed above the level of the waters of the little bay which here, in military phrase, "turns the flank" of the north and extreme end of the sea-front of the city, became very soon after the first outburst of "La Peste" studded with the tattered and unhappy tents of the "compromised;" and, moreover, the city hospitals, especially that of St. Roque, rapidly filled to overflowing.

The Franks, ever strict believers, as a body, in the efficacy of Quarantine, shut up their trembling families in Bujah and Bournabat, and even hurriedly formed a *cordon sanitaire* round the

former of these villages; while within the town of Smyrna itself, in its wide-spread network of narrow streets, almost every European merchant donned for his daily rounds an anti-contagious oilskin overcoat; and bore also in his hand a trusty and persuasive iron-shod bludgeon, to "fend off" therewith not only the dangerous approach of the reckless loose-robed Sons of the Turban, but, by St. George, to keep even the tight Sons of the Hat, even the dearest kinsmen and friends and acquaintance, at the very respectful distance of arm's length. "Touch me not" was the charitable order of the day; and "the plague is contagious," a phrase in all Christian mouths, except, perhaps, the medicos, who were of course most widely divided in their professional opinions on the subject. Dr. Bulard, a gallant Frenchman, carried the doctrine of non-contagion to such an extent as bravely to immerse himself altogether with the patients in one of the Plague Hospitals, many of whom he had the ineffable satisfaction of rescuing from the very jaws of death. In Smyrna he for



"I THANK YOU, O MURAD! BUT BY THE BEARD OF THE PROPHET, AZRAEL HAS BEEN HERE THIS NIGHT."—DRAWN BY G. THOMAS.

some time dauntlessly stood his ground unharmed, and subsequently, on receiving *pratique*, proceeded with a like benevolent purpose to Constantinople—the city of the Sultan—where we unfortunately lost sight of him.

There is one quarter of Smyrna that is tolerably well known to travellers in the East by the name of Turk Town. Here the contradictory systems and medicinal precautions of the Franks and their *Hekims* were, at the period of our story, openly held in contempt and disregarded. Here everything seemed left unreservedly to Fate, to *Takdir* or to *Kismet*. Here the Muslims, even

in the Rag Bazaar, bought and sold, and ate and drank, and prayed and slept, and then prayed and bought and sold again, day after day, and week after week, as if the plague were altogether a fiction, and Death had no dominion over mortal man. If any of the shops in the *tcharshuks* became vacant, from their tenant being, as predestined, taken away by the terminator of delights and the separator of companions, some Alce or Omar resignedly and at once took to the very carpet, or, to be more correct perhaps, stepped into the very shoes of the dead Mustapha or Mehemet; and thus, till all trades were more than

decimated, business of any kind was scarcely for a single day interrupted. Numerous fresh graves were, meanwhile, constantly being dug in the cypress-shaded cemeteries, and the hired reciters of the Koran seemed, to most observers, more than usually active, as well as hoarse and husky in their vocation; yet, notwithstanding these speaking signs, and the frequent loss of many familiar faces in every public haunt and favourite resort, there was still no panic, save, as we have already said, among the Franks.

To use a common English phrase, no one, looking merely at the

conduct of the Turks, would have dreamt that the plague was at work within the city of Smyrna. Dreamt, do we say?

Aye; we are dreamers all in some sense; still few have yet dreamt as Selim of Smyrna is recorded to have done at this sad period of the plague. Listen! BISMILLAH! Selim, the slipper-seller, tenanted a shop or *dukian* in the Papoudj Bazaar, and possessed a private residence in Turk Town, at the top of the steep hill in the vicinity of the Jews' cemetery.

When seated one morning in the bazaar, with his tempting wares around him, his immediate neighbour, Murad, observed that his friend's countenance was, contrary to its usual appearance for years past, excessively sad, and his heart evidently contracted. He remembered also, at the same moment, that for some days Selim had been frequently absent from his *dukian*, and had, before going away, unaccountably neglected more than once to throw the protective net over his unwatched goods. And his stock of red, white, yellow, blue, and black *papoudjes* was by no means the least valuable in the bazaar, one indeed offering great temptation to the dishonest. So, shifting his own position a little more to the front, and there comfortably recrossing his legs, Murad slowly turned his turbaned head far enough to bring his single grey eye—for Murad had lost the other by ophthalmia—to bear full upon the countenance and uncombed beard of Selim.

"Bana-bak! look here," cried Murad; upon which Selim raised his head, and ceased counting the beads of the *tesbih* or rosary he happened at the moment to be passing through his feverish fingers.

"Trade is bad this morning, O Selim; these unsainted Franks are becoming either poor or miserly. They buy not slippers as they were wont to do. May the soles of their feet be blistered, and—"

"Yavash, yavash!" interrupted Selim. "Be mild, O Murad! The sons of the Franks are not misers; they are at times good customers, but now their livers are all dried up with fear, as mine own is with sorrow."

"Allah Kerim! God is compassionate!" cried Murad. "Why should the infidels fear?"

"Fear you not God? Allahden Korkmazmisen? Yes, yes, Murad, I know you fear Allah. And the Franks—"

"The Franks," said Murad, "fear death. They desert our bazaars. They fly to their villages. They say leather is 'susceptible.' Can the plague, then, be hid in a slipper? Bosh! What foolish word is this now so often on their tongues—'Oulashma, oulashma,' 'Contagion, contagion.' Allah Kerim! God is compassionate. And the Franks, I repeat, are becoming either cowardly or miserly."

Selim shook his head, for he had many friends among the Franks.

"The plague is among us," resumed Murad; "but God is great! You are alive, and I am alive, and, by the Beard of the Prophet, in the whole bazaar, even in two moons, not a dozen *papoudjes* have departed for the Garden of Paradise."

"The next *papoudje*, O Murad," said Selim, impressively, "will certainly be the friend who now addresses you."

"What words are these?" cried the astonished Murad; "why should you die? And how can the decree of Fate be known to you?"

"I feel that I shall very soon die," rejoined Selim; "and I will presently convey to you the grounds of my presentiment. But I fear not death."

"As the Franks do," murmured Murad.

"Some of them may fear it much; certainly, many of their livers are dried up with apprehension; but is there not a cause? Perhaps they fear death here, since their sons and their daughters and their wives are distant, even a thousand leagues from their own nation and their early home."

"Never mind the Franks," ejaculated Murad, "I like them not, for they slew my two brothers at Navarin. But tell me, O Selim, why you should be the next to ascend to the odours of Paradise? What thing is this? What thoughts are these? Is your head a *Karpouz*, a brainless water-melon? *Shadbash!* cheer up! why should you die?"

"It is my destiny," answered Selim, "and I bow to fate: I have had a *doush*, a dream."

"From the decree of destiny there is no escape," replied Murad, "and the Prophet has declared that dreams are true omens."

"And my dream I will now relate to you," returned Selim.

The single grey eye of Murad twinkled in its socket, but his tongue remained silent.

"You have heard," resumed Selim, "that the *Khanum*," (thus he referred to his wife), "together with her infant, died last week of the Plague—Allah's will be done.—Well, my whole household, the *Khanum* and myself included, consisted but of seven souls. Some thirteen nights ago, I dreamt that AZRAEL came to my abode, and that exactly seven dead bodies were carried out of my house, each covered with a red pall, and I suddenly awoke in terror and tribulation. There were as I have said, but just seven souls under my roof."

"Of whom you have lost two," interrupted Murad. "God is compassionate, and the rest may be spared to you."

"No," continued Selim, mournfully, "the dream is already almost literally fulfilled. Six, six, have already been taken by the Plague. I am the seventh!"

Murad's face lengthened with astonishment, and great was his anxiety for his friend.

"I related my dream this morning to Aziz, our opposite neighbour, who is now angrily addressing that ill-looking Arab, seemingly half asleep on the *mastabah* before the shop, and obstructing the approach of customers. I have now told you, O Murad, and—"

Murad was about to make some observation, but Selim interrupted him.

"With your permission," continued he, "let me first finish my narration. I thought at one time, yesterday, of purchasing a black slave or two at the market just behind this *tcharshie*; so that by thus adding to the number of my household, the seventh death might perchance fall upon a slave, and not upon myself."

"Destiny is not to be defeated by a dodge," exclaimed Murad; "but still, the dream may not be literally fulfilled. You may yet escape. You may have, indeed, mistaken the number; seven for six. Remember, O Selim! it once pleased Allah to try Eyoub. The blow that has fallen upon you is heavy. But you are yet alive, God is all-powerful. Like Eyoub you may flourish again. *Shadbash*, cheer up!"

"I expect nothing but speedy death," replied Selim; "I have locked up my house, and strolling down to the bazaar, thro' the force of habit, I find myself here, I know not how or why, for my heart is indeed contracted, and I have no desire to buy or sell."

Murad rejoined not, but allowed his friend to proceed undisturbed.

"I feel, that to buy a slave," resumed Selim, after a pause, "is wrong and cruel, and I yield not to the temptation."

"Are you quite alone in your house?" inquired Murad.

"I am," answered Selim; "and shall remain so, trusting in Allah, whether I am to live or expire. But if, O Murad, I am to die, I feel I may do so even this very night. And I know that beyond a day or two there is no escape for me."

"*Balkaloun!*" ejaculated Murad. "We shall see. What is written."

"Therefore, I conjure you, by Allah," continued Selim, "that

you, and Aziz, and Atib, the little tailor, visit my house about the time of the first prayer to-morrow morning."

"To-morrow?" interrupted Murad, inquiringly.

"Yes, to-morrow," repeated Selim. "And the next morning, and the following morning also, if necessary. Rattle the door-ring once or twice, and, if I answer not, break your way in, that it may be discovered whether I be then alive or dead. If the latter, then, O Murad, you must see that I am properly washed and buried; for Oh, my friend, I am now alone—alone—alone. I have no household to perform the last offices."

Here, notwithstanding that resignation to the decree of Providence, for which the Osmanlees are, with justice, so celebrated, a few burning tears coursed down the cheeks of Selim. At this moment, Aziz, winding up a few hearty curses with the insulting word "*Pezavenk*," drove away the Arab from his *mastabah*, as one of his well-known customers, a portly *Bin-bashee*, or infantry colonel, was pompously approaching, apparently to make a purchase; and then Murad, after throwing a casual glance at the retreating, yawning son of Ishmael, spake the following words of comfort to Selim:

"I will not fail, O my friend, to render you the service you require, and I will take care that Atib and Aziz accompany me."

"Such service will ensure recompense in heaven!" said Selim.

"My duty to a fellow Muslim, and especially to one of my own *esnaf*, must not be neglected," replied Murad. "The reward is with Allah."

"I have bought my grave-clothes," continued Selim; "you will find them in a box in the wardrobe of the room in which I sleep."

Some further conversation occurred between the two friends, and then Selim rose and said, "I must now speak to Aziz, as the *Bin-bashee* has left him; and call also on Atib, the tailor. By the holy mantle of Mouhammad, Atib is the only man in the city to whom—even for a *para*—I am a *bordjlu*, a debtor."

"Then fortunate is your star," exclaimed Murad.

"I must pay Atib to-day," resumed Selim, "that no reflection may be cast on my memory. Atib is an honest man, and with him I shall also deposit my *vasiyyet*, my will, which, but for the blood-relationship between us, I should have confided to thee, O Murad."

And here, Selim, taking leave, fastened up his shop and departed. Murad remained in the bazaar, but, for this day, the Franks certainly deserved the bad character given to them by the one-eyed *papoudjee*. They bought no slippers.

A few hours passed away, and about sunset Selim attended prayers at an adjacent mosque, and then entered his now solitary abode in Turk Town. No cheering sound greeted his approach, the *Khanum* and her prattling children were now alike in the cold grave, and the poor Osmanlee's heart, though nearly bursting, still prompted him to bow, without repining, to the will of Allah.

Slowly he passed on to his chamber, where, taking a mattress from the cupboard or *yook* in which it was kept, he spread it on the floor, carefully placed thereon the necessary bed-clothes, and then sank down, not to sleep, but to meet his apparently inevitable fate.

The night wore on—the agitated mind of Selim instinctively surveyed his past life—the follies in the warm blood of inexperienced youth committed—the opportunities for charity even recently neglected—the hasty words of anger from time to time addressed to his slaves—the lukewarm zeal with which he had occasionally befriended the stranger—the now clearly apparent selfishness that often unwittingly had actuated his motives—all, all passed before "the mind's eye" of Selim rapidly, distinctly, and forcibly; heart and head and memory seemed to acquire supernatural powers of recollection—and many, therefore, were the prayers for pardon that now passed the lips of the self-accusing Mussulman.

And yet, Selim—compared with his fellows—was not a bad man. Let us proceed.

At midnight the young moon threw but a faint light upon the city, and indefinable shadows played along the walls of Selim's *oda*. The poor fellow had for hours momentarily expected his dissolution, that "sudden wrench from all we know." At last he happened to turn his eyes towards the door-curtain, and near to this he fancied he perceived a tall figure, sternly regarding him! It was so. This horrid reality froze his very life-blood.

In a few moments the figure glided nearer to the bed. Selim started up in an agony of terror. "WHO ART THOU?" were the only words he could utter, and a cold sweat burst forth on his brow.

"Be silent!" slowly exclaimed a hollow voice. "I AM AZRAEL, THE ANGEL OF DEATH!"

"My destiny is then fulfilled!" murmured Selim, his knees knocking together, and his teeth chattering. Yet, in this dreadful moment the lessons of the Moullah did not depart from him. He religiously pronounced the Muslim profession of faith: "I testify there is no Deity but Allah; and that Mouhammad is God's Apostle. To God we belong, and to God we must return." Having made this profession, Selim sunk into a swoon.

On partially recovering his senses, and now feeling certain he was about to die, he hastily pulled the wadded quilt over his head, expecting every moment to be his last, and every echo of the wind to be the footstep of Azrael.

Some time elapsed, yet Selim still lived, though all his strength had long passed away. Why did Azrael hesitate to give the fatal blow? A thought struck Selim. Had the Angel of Death mercifully departed? But he removed not the quilt from his face, fearful to meet the gaze of the fell destroyer. Had Azrael passed on to the Hebrew *mahalle*, to slay a predestined number of heartless usurers? Had he altogether, or only for a while left Selim? And when would he return? Oh, the agony of suspense! the indescribable horror of that dread pause in the tide of life, when at its very height of glorious flood, the sparkling stream delays for a short space that fatal turn which marks the commencing ebb, the downward, slow but certain, ever-increasing current rushing to the Sea of Death! Selim swooned again. Is he dead?

The night passed away; the day dawned; the call to the first prayers resounded from the minarets; and—but who are these?

Several persons entered the apartment. They saw spread on the floor a bed, whereon appeared the form of a human body, motionless as a corpse, and covered with a quilt. The first was Murad, now come to redeem his promise made in the bazaar.

"The dream is indeed fulfilled," thought Murad to himself, "yet *balkaloun*, yet let us see; we are early, 'tis scarcely day, it is possible life may not be extinct, and if I come but in time to close my poor friend's eyes, the Frankish fear of contagion shall find no imitator in Murad, the Papoudjee. Inshallah! Selim shall not be quite deserted in the hour of death!"

Atib, the little tailor, and Aziz now came forward, while Murad stooped down, and in a voice trembling with emotion, slowly uttered the simple word "Selim!"

"O Azrael! O thou Angel of Death!" cried a faint voice immediately from the bed, "at length thou art returned! I, Selim, a true and faithful Muslim, am thoroughly resigned to my fate. Keep me no longer in suspense, but do thine office quickly. O Azrael, Azrael, as my last words, I testify there is no Deity but Allah. And I testify that Mouhammad is God's Apostle."

"Azrael!" shouted Murad in astonishment, and jerking the

quilt away from Selim's countenance, "Azrael!" Why should you address me as Azrael? What am I but Murad, your friend Murad, the one-eyed Papoudjee, thanks to that cursed *remed*; Mashallah! 'tis now daybreak, open your eyes, and look up, none are around you but friends."

"I thank you, O Murad," replied Selim, gradually recognising his friend's voice, "but by the Beard of the Prophet, AZRAEL HAS BEEN HERE THIS NIGHT."

"You have had but another dream," suggested Murad.

"No," replied Selim, now opening his eyes; "again let me acquaint you, Azrael has been here, Azrael has pronounced the dread summons, and I expect his immediate return."

Atib the little tailor, or *terzy*, here evinced considerable uneasiness, became fidgety, and threw a furtive glance at the door-curtain, as if expecting Azrael to make his appearance forthwith from behind it.

"Selim's brain is wandering," whispered Murad to Aziz, "if Azrael has been here, how could Selim be yet alive?"

The little tailor here returned to the bed, and moving his tongue with some difficulty, owing to the fearful dryness of his mouth, ventured to ask Selim (who had again opened his eyes, but still remained prostrate), "Who else had paid him a visit during the night, or who had attended upon him?"

"*Kimsè guelmedi!*" exclaimed Selim; "no one at all. And how could they, for the door of my house was fastened? I gave you permission to break in, as you doubtless have done, for if you rattled the door-ring, I heard you not."

"The door fastened!" exclaimed the little tailor; "'Break in!' why, we found the door open! We rattled no door-ring."

"To Azrael," replied Selim, "doors, perhaps, are no obstruction. Bolts and bars are but flimsy cobwebs to the Angel of Death. The door may have opened at his approach."

"The Moullahs know more about that than I do," continued the persevering tailor; "but pray, then, as you say no one has been up here, who is the man we saw down in the court-yard just now? Is he a new *Kapoudjee*, a new doorkeeper?"

"I am alone in my house, I have no *Kapoudjee*," cried Selim; "but Azrael, at this early dawn, may have made himself visible to you as well as to me. O you good Muslims, I know of no man in the court; and if my door was unlatched when you entered, Azrael must himself have opened it when he this night visited me."

On hearing these words the little tailor rushed from the room. But Selim, confident that the inevitable Azrael was about to return, resumed his prayers aloud, in which his two friends joined.

Suddenly they were startled by the return of the tailor. "By the Beard of the Prophet," exclaimed he, on rushing into the room; "the man I saw in the court, and thought to be your *Kapoudjee*, and asleep on the ground, when we passed in, is a corpse, a corpse!"

"A corpse!" echoed Murad and Aziz in a breath.

"Yes, a corpse," repeated the tailor; "and on turning him over, I found beneath his cloak, several things, besides this money, this bag of *beshliks*, and this dead fellow—"

"Dead! a corpse!" exclaimed the hitherto sinking and bewildered Selim. "A man dead in the court-yard!" cried he, springing upright in the bed.

"As dead as Solyman the Magnificent!" cried the sleazy little tailor, "As defunct as Hajji Bektash."

"Then God be praised!" shouted Selim, leaping into the middle of the floor. "God be praised! as the fellow is dead, whoever he is, HE makes the seventh of my dream, and not I. Azrael has taken him, and not me."

But here an almost electric change came over Selim's countenance, and he, in a tremor, exclaimed: "Yet, Azrael did address me! How is this? Seven dead, and I alive. And the dream—"

In another instant Selim rushed as rapidly down to the court-yard as the little tailor had done. His three friends followed him, astounded at the strength and activity of a man but a few minutes before verging on dissolution. They found him gazing sternly at the corpse.

"The *Pezavenk!*" exclaimed Selim. "I can unriddle it all. This fellow is a thief; the bag of *beshliks*, these other monies are mine. He has, this night, been plundering my house."

"I know the *Pezavenk's* ugly countenance," exclaimed Aziz. "This is the very Arab who was dozing on my *mastabah* in the bazaar yesterday, when the *Bin-bashee* arrived."

"Ah!" added Murad; "and he must then have been feigning sleep, and thus overheard Selim relate his dream to me."

"And, worse than all," rejoined Selim; "This son of a dog, (may his father be burnt!) must have entered my chamber for plunder, and, seeing my state, have passed himself off as AZRAEL, THE ANGEL OF DEATH! What a brain I must have not to have discovered the trick!"

"Well, at all events," cried the little tailor; "the dream is now out,—seven were to die, and seven are dead. Selim is now the eighth in the house, and Inshallah, he will be saved."

And Selim was saved, and for aught we know to the contrary, yet occupies a shop in the slipper-bazaar at Smyrna.

THE MULE AND ITS PARENT.

LAST evening, at the conversation of the Pumpford Literary and Scientific Institution, Mr. Polder delivered an interesting lecture "On a Remarkable Specimen of a Hybrid Bird, discovered in a State of Nature." The learned naturalist prefaced his description of this curious little creature by a few general observations on the subject of hybrids in ornithology. He said, his hearers were, of course, aware that the production of hybrids, or mules, among domesticated birds, was a familiar fact. All of them had often enough seen the mixed breed,—what, in sporting phraseology, he believed was called the *cross*,—between the primrose-tinted warbler of the drawing-room and our British goldfinch. But, frequent as was the occurrence of intermediate forms in a state of confinement, it was one of the utmost rarity under the condition of freedom. It would seem, if he might be allowed to say so, that captivity had the effect of softening the hearts of the prisoners, and of removing those antipathies that were the obstacles to conjugal union. It was to be expected that, *adversis paribus*, a bird would, if possible, select a mate of its own species, exactly as, with any freedom of choice, a European, generally speaking, would not prefer to enter into a matrimonial alliance with a negress. They were told that every "Jack had his Jill," a principle which, if sound, implied that, necessarily, there was an exact proportion between the softer and sterner sex of the feathered race, making due allowance, of course, for those tribes which practised polygamy. But this was a point on which it was difficult to form a decided conclusion. Unfortunately, no means existed of obtaining from the winged population those statistical returns on which alone any satisfactory induction could be founded. And when it was considered how many interferences with the natural relations between the opposite sexes, of the *parus*, or tom-tit, for instance, and the common house-sparrow, must be occasioned by the brick-trap and the pebble of the school-boy, and the artillery of the juvenile sportsman, it was difficult to imagine that, in any given year, there would not be a surplus either of males or females, in each branch of the feathered family.

Now, of course, so very incongruous a union as that between a hawk and a partridge could hardly be anticipated. The raptorial partner in such a conjunction, were it temporarily effected, would soon devour the creature it was bound to cherish. But when there was a general agreement on the subject of diet, and other matters of taste and family arrangement, and no great disparity in dimensions and structure, he did not see why the old male of one species should not, rather than exist in a state of melancholy celibacy, (for he would say that the state of celibacy was melancholy,) pair with the lone female of another. If he were a goose—which, he hoped, was not the case,—he should have no objection to a swan, however his hand—he should have said his wing—might be scorned by the bird of loftier lineage. He did not see why a blackbird, unable to find a helpmate of his own hue, should turn up his nose—that was to say, his beak—at a pretty thrush, with elegant plumage and a good voice; they were both musical, and entertained the same views on the subject of hawberries, cherries, earthworms, and snails. He could quite understand why a kingfisher and a nut-thatch could never agree,—there would be perpetual bickerings between them with respect to dinner,—controversies such as sometimes occur between other couples; but why, where every sympathy, on this and every other important point prevailed, the mere difference of tribe should be so nearly an insuperable bar to union, he could not conceive. Such, however, was the fact; and chaffinch and greenfinch, siskin and linnet, stood aloof like Guelph and Ghibelline, or Capulet and Montague. Yet sometimes, though once in the course of ages, a plumed Romeo would, abandoning the traditions of his paternal house—or nest—seek the plume of an equally exceptional Juliet. And more happy than the lovers whose sad story was commemorated by the Swan—as an ornithologist, he delighted in applying the title—the Swan of Avon,—the nuptials of the eccentric pair were blessed with offspring, by which, in fact, alone, the circumstance of the marriage was revealed. The parents lived again, both of them, in their progeny, which combined, in its own person, the plumage and physiognomy of each.

An exemplification of this rare fact they witnessed in the specimen before him, for the admirable mounting of which he had employed an eminent taxidermist. He would presently send round this most interesting curiosity, and those present could then have an opportunity of forming their own opinions as to its origin, of which the precise nature seemed dubious. Some regarded it as a breed between the *Fringilla viridis*, or greenfinch, and the *Motacilla flava* or yellow wagtail; but such a combination as that of a seed-eating grosbeak, with an individual of the insectivorous, thin-billed *incassores*, was an impossible anomaly. For his own part, guided by careful reference to plumage, and by consideration of probability in supposing affinities, he concluded that the bird had derived its parentage from an alliance of the common bunting with the yellow-hammer. The length of the individual was about five inches: the head was surmounted with a brownish tuft; the wing coverts and tertials were marked with the same colour; the neck, breast, belly, sides, and flanks were of a yellowish green; the under tail coverts whitish; beak and legs of a whitish flesh colour; eyes black. His opinion as to its origin was deduced partly from considering the peculiarities of its tertials and primaries,—partly from a careful admeasurement of the length of the carpal-joint to the end of the wing. It was not, he trusted, with undue pride, that he contemplated the mighty advance of science, which had enabled a Cuvier to construct an entire animal of the pre-Adamite world from the fragment of a bone, and by the aid of which he himself had, in like manner, as he conceived, demonstrated the pedigree of this little unknown. Knowledge was power, and, together with the steam-engine and the electric telegraph, the science of ornithology, pursued in a philosophical spirit, would alter the destinies of the world. The learned lecturer concluded amid great applause by handing round the bird for inspection, observing that he was indebted for its acquisition to a lad, who had knocked it down with a stone on Clapham Common.

The wonder of ornithology had scarcely gone a quarter round the company, when a lady, uttering a scream, suddenly let it drop on the floor. Immediately several persons ran to her assistance, under the impression that she had been taken ill; but declining their proffered aid, she stated that her feelings had been overcome by the sight of the supposed hybrid, which turned out to be no other than a lost favourite, sought in vain, by the following advertisement, in the "Times" of Dec. 30:—

FLOWN AWAY, from —, Cheapside, a TAME CANARY-BIRD.

This unexpected circumstance appeared slightly to confound Dr. Podder, who declared he certainly had felt perfectly confident that the bird in question was a mule.

An old gentleman present remarked that he had always understood that the notion of a mule involves the idea of a donkey.

The scientific discussion then terminated, and that of tea and coffee concluded the proceedings.

A FEW WORDS ABOUT MEDIEVAL MONSTERS.

ON "COLLEGE MONSTERS."

As there is no doubt that terrifying people a little is sometimes good for them, we have often admired the singular success which our mediæval architects, sculptors, artists, emblazoners, and monumental brass manufacturers attained in this respect. Instead of roasting, frying, or broiling a heretic by a slow fire; instead of burning him to charcoal by a quick one, they took things quietly; and when a heretic said he didn't believe something which he ought, or did believe something that he didn't ought, they simply set a waterspout to grin at him, or told a monumental brass to stare at him till he went home, had a fit of nightmare, went to his confessor at half-past six in the morning, and faithfully promised never again to believe or disbelieve anything without his permission.

Such, we suppose, was the charitable intention that led to decorating our churches with griffins, dragons, sea-horses, ghouls, gnomes, Pucks, Bards, and other semi-fabulous monsters. But if so, the intention failed most lamentably. If pulling-horses' mouths would have kept a people religious; if sardonic-looking waterspouts would have regulated their consciences, and prevented their eating beef when parched peas were in season, there would have been no occasion for the burnings in Smithfield; and a few wry faces, by way of gentle remonstrance, would have saved not a few wry necks in the pillory, and not a few wry legs, arms, and faces, on the rack.

What, then, can have been their use? Were they intended to entertain people; and, in the hope of finding something equally funny inside, to induce them to enter church? Not long ago, passing one of Mr. Pugin's neatest, newest, and most mediæval churches, we heard one street-boy tell another to "look at them Guys up there"—an irreverent observation, which his mate made worse, by expressing a wish to "have a shy" at the said Guys. From the appearance of some of the "Guys" in question, outside our old churches, the custom of "taking shies" appears to be of ancient date.

The great Durandus says that the ghastly, grinning, cholera-

wincing images which people the outsides of churches, are intended to represent the evil spirits driven by the force of prayer from the inside to the outside. This is a beautiful idea: but if the "histrionics" (we don't mean the Amateur Club who performed *Not so Bad as we Seem*, for a good purpose, but the genuflexionists and mummerists) persist in driving away the people who want to pray in a simple and unaffected manner; if they persist in reviving the twaddle, and furnishing the rubbish of middle-aged superstition, we shall expect to find the water-spouts, with all the griffins, dragons, devils, horses' mouths, sea-horses, and monsters in general, again taking shelter inside, and staring and grinning us out of our own pew.

No; this cannot have been the use. If it had been, people would always go to the churches where the water-spouts and gurgoyles are most terrific, and would cut the nasty brick buildings, where there isn't a horrid face to be seen. But people do not. These bogie-looking visages have lost their power; matter-of-fact people only believe that water-spouts are intended to carry off the rain and prevent it coming through the roof; and people of taste only think that the gurgoyles might as well be ornamented in a different manner.

Is it possible that these grim figures represent people driven mad by the insincerity and want of charity of those within the Church? Are they the ghosts of people who lived bad lives, and when they could no longer enjoy their money, left it to build churches? Did the trustees who got the money, put up these grim images as characteristic of the lives the donors had led? Did they think that those who had made their money and gained their worldly ends without much regard to the means, and who had died with their consciences in a sadly dirty condition, might as well have become instrumental to a little cleanliness after their death? Alas! who knows whether many a water-spout could not tell a sad story of some knight, baron, or esquire, perhaps of some saint, whose virtues, strange to say, were never found out till after his death?

It is of no use to attempt conjectures upon these matters, especially as imagination furnishes much more entertaining particulars concerning these symbols than any history. But the monsters are not confined to mere purposes of utility. Door-handles and hinges, water-spouts, brackets, and knockers, are tolerably rich in this peculiar hobgoblin mythology; but there is a liberal allowance of heraldic, monastic, and scholastic monsters, who are less well known, and who, as we literally know nothing about them, will give finer and freer play to the imagination. It is of this half-forgotten class that we would briefly treat.

"At ye College of St. Agnus Dei de Bonaventura Bullferry," saith an ancient chronicle,* "there bee certaine yryte goode ynd usefulle, yet cunning devices, by ye wyche is yryte well sett forth the ydutie of ye fellowes, clerks, and others of ye samen house, ye one to ye tother." Proceeding upon this information, when we were last at Bullferry, we made an inquiry into the existence of these "devices," and were much pleased at finding that they could not only be seen, but seen for nothing—a rare circumstance in the collegiate city of Bullferry.

We cannot give many particulars of these interesting monsters; but a few of them will speak for themselves. We were especially struck with a pathetic symbol, inculcating, as we are told, "how ye fellow of ye college should train and demean himself towards ye younger members of that society." It represented a river-horse, with an elaborate tail, and of a generally grotesque appearance, affectionately supporting a young, and—metaphorically speaking—unfledged river-horse upon its shoulders. Thereupon we fell a wondering how it was that the College of St. Agnus Dei de Bonaventura had so few undergraduates; and that, except those that were hereafter themselves to be fellows, youth were so little cared for in the said college. And we did wonder why the poor bible clerks and chaplains did get so little, and the large river-horses—we mean the senior fellows—so much. And then we thought it would be well if all the fellows of that same college had shoulders as broad as the river-horse, for they have enough blame to bear for their neglect and laziness.

With our natural love of the antique, and our fixed determination literally to leave no stones unturned that were likely to turn up anything like useful information, we resolved to cull a few more golden maxims and lessons from the elaborate and semi-intelligible monsters surrounding the purlieus of St. Agnus Dei de Bonaventura College, Bullferry.

Passing under the windows of the Very Reverend the Warden's lodgings, our eyes rested upon a lion, slightly fantastic in anatomy and in attitude—but still a lion. His claws were evidently ready for action; but whether prompted by a desire of his dinner, or for vengeance upon a foe, was less evident. His mane was singularly orderly and respectable, and apparently trimmed by the *friseur* who daily attends the Nineveh sculptures in the British Museum, it being arranged in a compact series of small and regular curls peculiar to mediæval lions, and seldom witnessed at menageries. Even his tail had been made subservient to ornamental detail, being neatly twisted into a band, and curled round his body. His claws were also rather like those of a weather-cock dragon, and his ears were of an ornamental rather than a zoological pattern. All our conventional notions as to the position of the lion while couchant for his prey, or while lashing his tail in "making up" for a roar, vanished at once, and we felt that, if there was faith in sculpture, the lion had been lamentably misrepresented at the Zoological Gardens.

Our friend Oakes, of Tipton College, Bullferry, did direct our attention to the legend of the said lion; and we tried to rub away the dust from our eyes and our Latin; and we read—

FORTITUDO
VIGILANTIA;

Which two substantives, standing alone without copulative conjunction, do nevertheless signify that the fellows, warden, and other collegiate officiates



This legend sheweth how ye Fellow of ye College should train and demean himself towards ye younger members of that Society.



ought to unite valour with watchfulness, and ought to be alert to discover, and valiant to repel, any foe to the prosperity, learning, and goodness of the College of St. Agnus Dei de Bonaventura.

Then did we begin to ponder what was the watchfulness shown by the said warden and fellows. Did it appertain unto the "ryte and newe methode of brewerie, settinge forth howe yte beere did oughte to be brewed 3 times over, ye wyche is called PROOFE; for yt it proveth a man hys capacite for drynkinge." * Surely not; for "albeit beer doth make men valiant, it little helpeth cautiousness," saith Erasmus Barliensis. Can it be the keeping of the College money? No. Did not the founder, Sir Guy Sherrywine, leave his money for the support of poor scholars? But if the fellows keep the money—and friend Oakes (who is a clerk only, and therefore hath reason to know) says they do keep it—verily the lion doth misrepresent the will of the founder, and hath only the watchfulness of the dragon—over dead men's treasure.

And for his bravery, we know not whether it be much better. To be sure, Tom Swagson—who did not take a first class in *literis humanioribus*, after being stroked in the St. Agnus Dei Bonaventura eight—did pommel a policeman, and did get pommelled in a row with the "town," for that he had pinned a cracker to the hat of a "cad." Yet did his brother, for that he had been fellow, make him fellow, too, albeit he was obliged to give up smoking a clay pipe down Broad-street, in consequence. But Tom Swagson lived very happily on his fellowship, and didn't miss his fighting or his pipe.

But our friend Oakes, who knoweth everything, from the dissecting of grasshoppers up to the ornaments at the summit of the unfinished spire of Cologne Cathedral, did rebuke us for our ignorance, and did straightway put into our hands a tract, entitled, "Poor Scholars, or a Few Hints on University Extension, with a View to the more perfect carrying out of Founders' Intentions according to their spirit."

We went home, and we began to read; and quickly did we see what the valour, boldness, or courage of the warden and fellows must be. When we had read it, we thought that a lion of brass would have conveyed the lesson even more forcibly than a lion of stone.

From the aforesaid pamphlet it did appear that Sir Guy Sherrywine had left certain monies to found certain fellowships, scholarships, clerkships, and other offices dedicated to the advancement of sound and useful learning. In process of time, land brought more money, and the fellows and other heads got more; but the clerks got less. It did further appear, that whilst other smaller and poorer colleges admitted plenty of commoners, and gave them a fair chance of getting anything they had ability to deserve, the fellows of St. Agnus Dei did manfully resist all such intrusions, and did give away all the good things to their own relations and private acquaintances, and did throw open the clerkships, which were worth nothing, to public competition.

We were right. The St. Agnus Dei lion was no lion at all. Perhaps the angry ghost of the founder appeared to him one night, after the fellows had gone to bed, oppressed with the "gandy day" dinner, and frightened all his nobler features into a mediæval burlesque.

Three cheers, then, for the brave fellows of St. Agnus Dei de Bonaventura; and three small ones for their brothers, sons, nephews, and cousins, who will be fellows in their turn. May they never want covetousness to deserve rebuke, nor intrepidity to turn a deaf ear to it!

Our dearly beloved young friend, Araminta Motacilla Fitz-Dugdale, who loveth everything mediæval, and who, despite the drawing-lessons she hath received from Dilk Compass, Esq., R.A., doth still incline to represent the background in the foreground, with divers other such whimsicalities. Araminta, we say—she of the lovely locks over the lovely shoulders—did ask me the other day why there were no dear, lovely monsters in the Middle Ages, as well as frightful ones? Hereupon we went home, and did painfully ponder upon this question. What did Araminta mean by a "dear, lovely monster"? Could it be something like her cousin, Reginald Fitz-Dragon, in the Guards, with whom the *Toilet-Table Post* did say there was something on the *tapis*? Surely not; for the said Reginald was a love of a waltzer, and never swore, except at a Blackwall tête-à-tête dinner, with Herr Baron Stoppyswitz. We thought, and we reflected, and we pondered, and we turned to books of reference, and we looked out of the window, and we wrote our name on the blotting paper, and we poked the fire, and we looked at the ceiling; but nothing would do. We were in despair. Suddenly our door opened, and friend Oakes appeared.

Of course we confided our difficulties to our pantological friend. Seizing a pen, he hastily sketched a curious thing, looking like a duck's neck taken out of a gibbet, and placed in the middle of the Egyptian wig in the British Museum. He at the same time informed us that it was the Pelican of the Wilderness plucking her own breast to feed her young; that it was a popular stone effigy among the monsters of St. Agnus Dei de Bonaventura; but that, through long neglect, the wig—that is to say, the ivy—had grown over it, till nothing but its neck and one foot remained visible.

With the neatest steel pen, on the most spotless paper, and in the neatest envelope, did we embody this "dear, lovely" monster of the Middle Ages; with our crest did we seal it, and by our friend's scout did we despatch it. Then we fell a-musing again. What had pelicans to do with colleges? In the plenitude of our innocence, we asked Oakes "whether they were good to eat?"

I wish you had seen Oakes (who is sternly scientific), when I asked him that question. Laying down his carefully-coloured German-silver-mounted "cutty," he looked at us, till we felt shrivelled into our boots and our insignificance, at the same time. But he soon began the instructive.

"Pelicans are not good to eat—at least, I never heard that they were; neither do Pelicans feed their young with their own blood, but I have heard that they do."

"Why, then, their emblematical application?"

"Because they were supposed to do so, exactly as, when colleges were founded, it was supposed that wardens and fellows would be capable and willing to do their duty. You might as well infer the one as the other. But," added Oakes, looking at his watch, "I have to meet the Society for the Diffusion of Skeletons and Subjects, and it only wants a quarter to four." With that he left us.

We felt sad at heart. Was there nothing pretty left among the memorials of the Middle Ages? Was everything left for one purpose swallowed up for another? Had human heart's blood as little existence in the University, as pelican's blood in the ingredients of animal sustenance? Were the veins and arteries of collegiate authorities as shrivelled as the corpses of those whose wealth they were enjoying? Were those, whose duty it was to feed the young with the food of life, to animate them by example, and to incite them to rivalry by their own greatness—were they conventional heroes of a fable, like the pelican? Was the food they gave, like hers, apocryphal; and was the ivy that covered the pelican but the sad emblem of the sordid apathy that had rotted the very entrails of St. Agnus Dei de Bonaventura, fed upon the "rich mould of dead men's graves," and grown splendid in its forgetfulness of the living? T. A. B.

* *Durandus' Monasteria Christiana*, in *Clapham Common Catalogue*, vol. xvi. 2376, b. 3, in Routledge's Cheap Series.

* "Statuta de Brewendo," l. i. tit. de alicis 3, § 45 * 3.

THE SQUANDERS OF SQUANDER CASTLE.*

BY WILLIAM CARLETON, Author of "Traits and Stories of the Irish Peasantry," "The Black Prophet," "Miser," &c., &c.

ILLUSTRATED BY F. W. TOPHAM.

"Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."

CHAPTER III.—MASTER TOM—MY PUPILS—JEMMY M'SCUTT'S VERY ORIGINAL SOURCE OF INCOME.

On finding myself, by such a prosperous gale of good fortune, a resident in the wealthy family of the Squanders, and in so respectable a capacity, I began to observe more closely the economy of the house, and the individual character of its inmates. Of the Squire himself, the reader has already had some intimation. He was one of those good-natured men, whose good-nature consists only in easiness of temper, and a strong habit of self-indulgence, without possessing scarcely a single practical virtue capable of making him a useful or respectable member of society. He was not then a harsh landlord, nor a man who would willingly harass or oppress his tenantry; but he was both negligent and ignorant of his duties as a landlord-proprietor. Indeed, so much so, that he was perfectly unconscious that "Property had its duties as well as its rights." He simply imagined that his tenantry were bound to pay him his rents, and that it was his business only to receive them. But as to the various acts of justice, encouragement, instruction, or forbearance, and a hundred other points involved in the duties of a landlord, he never once dreamt of them. These matters were altogether excluded from the habits and practice of the class to which he belonged, and, in his ignorance and neglect of them, he was in no degree singular. To look into the state and circumstances of his property—to observe modes of cultivation—to make himself acquainted with the habits and character of his tenantry, or the nature of the soil, never for a moment came within the spirit of his creed. The system by which he acted was that which predominated, almost

age of six years, to be formally dressed for dinner; and it was not until her sons grew too big, and, I may add, too dissolute to regard this ceremony, that they were allowed to leave it off, and run into the opposite extreme—which they did.

The Squire had a brother in the house, whom I cannot overlook in this description of his family. He was a quiet man, who came down to breakfast and dinner every day in the week without uttering a single word or syllable—unless, indeed, very rarely. The great pleasure of his life was smoking; and, next to that, to take a glass of punch with some of the tenants. The poor, inoffensive man was, besides, all benevolence, and, if he ever did speak, it was always in defence of the absent, of some servant with whom his sister-in-law might have found fault, or of a negligent or needy tenant whom his brother might be abusing. Never, however, was the pipe out of his mouth, unless when asleep or at meals. He was in possession of a small income—about three hundred a year—and the good which he clandestinely effected by it might well serve as an example to those who possess larger and more comprehensive means of serving their fellow-creatures. After breakfast he went up silently to his room—smoking; after dinner, he repeated his visit to the same place—still smoking; sometimes he would go out to the labourers while at work; sometimes to sit in a tenant's house—still smoke—smoke—smoking. Upon the latter occasion, he usually put a flask of whiskey, with a suitable quantity of lump-sugar, into his pocket; and, after a quiet chat, he would pull it out, and, having got the kettle boiled, would mix it with his own hands, and treat the family, taking a glass at the same time himself. He never looked into a newspaper, nor a book; nor was he ever supposed to bestow attention upon any subject that was calculated to awaken his mind from its languid and torpid state. Such, we say, he appeared and was supposed to be. Under this simplicity, however, there existed not merely a capacity for deep feeling, but keen, quiet powers of observation, of which neither the world nor his own friends had the least suspicion.

He was known as Master Tom; for, in Ireland, younger brothers, if unmarried, are frequently so denominated, by the peasantry, to the last day of their lives. Nothing could exceed his popularity in the neighbourhood, nor the love which was borne him by every inmate of his brother's house. Even Mrs. Squander, with all her pride and haughtiness, liked him; for, whenever she and her husband happened to discuss the relative merits of their families, he uniformly took her part. Emily doated on him, because she was more in his secrets than any of the rest, and was better acquainted with the simplicity and truth of his affections, and his furtive benevolence.

Master Tom was the youngest of the family, and, in consequence of the utter indifference to moral or literary training which prevailed at that period among the class to which his father belonged, we need scarcely say that his education had been shamefully neglected. He was, at the time I write of, within forty; a young looking man, with good features—of a pale, placid, and benevolent expression. Such was Master Tom, of whom the reader will hear more, before the conclusion of our narrative.

The furniture of the castle had been rich and fashionable, and might be still pronounced so; but the convivial habits of the Squire, the carelessness of the servants, and the orgies which took place there so frequently, had, in the course of time, impressed upon every thing in the house a rakish, and, if we may be permitted to apply the term, a licentious character. The beautiful tables were dinged and stained; the sofas, although well-looking to the eye, felt crazy when you sat upon them. The carpets bore similar marks of intemperance; and there was scarcely a sober chair in the dining-room.

Having thus given a slight sketch of the family, I shall now proceed to detail the history of the progress which my pupils made under my management.

In order to my greater success, I drew up a set of rules for their adoption. In this programme I appointed the hours for study, and for their attendance in the school-room. I then examined them—or, rather, attempted to do so—in order to ascertain the extent of the acquirements already made, that I might know from what point to start. The school-room in which this experiment took place was a large, comfortable apartment, with a bagatelle-table in one end, on which lay a large baggammon-box, closed. On looking into this, I discovered two or three packs of cards; and, on examining the other appurtenances of this precious seminary, I observed several fowling-pieces, powder-flasks, shot-belts, wash ram-rods; together with landing-nets, fishing-rods, stuffed-birds, hunting-horns, and—though last, not least—no less than three cases of duelling pistols; one for each pupil—purchased for them by their affectionate father.

It is due to myself to confess here, that I approached my task with two distinct impressions. In the first place, I felt anxious, not only to do my duty, but to do it in such a manner as might produce beneficial results to my wild and headlong pupils; and, in the next, I was fully conscious of the almost insuperable difficulties that lay in my way. The eldest, Master Dick, was a good-looking stout boy, in or about seventeen. He was hasty, rather selfish, but not ill-natured, muscular, active, and remarkably well-made. Even at that age, however, there were visible, as well in his features as in his whole manner and bearing, the traces of early dissipation and a reckless life, as well as of a heart untamed and already corrupted by the premature propensities of unrestrained passion and indulgence. He was his father's favourite, and he knew it. From his birth, until the moment he came under my charge, a moral check, or a religious restraint had never been placed upon him. In every whim, and caprice, and desire, he had been allowed his own way, and the consequence was, that this system of indulgence added such force to the impetuous impulse of his will and passions, that any attempt even to moderate them was resented with a burst of indignation and rage that, in one so young, was frightful. The truth was, that not only his father, but his mother, sister, the servants, labourers, and tenants, all dreaded him, and made a point never to come in his way, or, at least, with one exception, to leave it as soon as possible whilst these furious outbursts of temper were upon him. When in this state he used to cuff and kick the unfortunate servants and dependants as if they were so many dogs, whilst they, poor devils, were obliged to put up with his violence and bear his outrages with patience, under the alternative of being dismissed without a character. It is true, that, as soon as his good temper returned, he would certainly apologise, tell them

he was sorry, that he did it in a passion, and, having said as much, would throw them a handful of loose silver, by way of compensation.

In the last sentence but one, we mentioned an exception. This was the cunning old huntsman, Jemmy M'Scutt, who always made it a point to throw himself in his way in the most outrageous moments of his passion, certain, at the time, that he was to come in for a thrashing; but as the hardened, weather-beaten old sinner was impenetrable to blows, his policy was to secure the compensation which he knew would follow. I have reason to believe that the shrewd old knave did not derive less than a pound a week from this extraordinary source of income.

The next was Master Harry, who, in point of disposition and character bore a considerable resemblance to his brother. He had, however, a greater command over his temper, and a much greater power of concealing what he felt. His resentments, too, were deeper, though less obvious, and, to a close observer, it was evident, that, though calmer than the other, he was much more implacable and vindictive, and retained his resentments until gratified by the infliction of some secret act of vengeance. His manner, though much more plausible, was also darker and more sullen than that of Dick. The latter, notwithstanding his wild, but transient, ebullitions of temper, was rather popular, and even well liked; whilst Harry, notwithstanding his greater habit of self-command, was no favourite at home and decidedly unpopular abroad.

The third, and youngest, was James. And here I cannot help dwelling upon a fact, connected with domestic character, which almost every person must have observed. Whether the members of a family be sons or daughters, or both, it is an indisputable truth that there will be always found one individual among them beyond comparison more kind, more amiable, more truthful, more virtuous, and, in general, by far more gifted than the rest. Young James was, indeed, an appropriate proof of this. Though injured considerably by the example of his brothers, by moral and religious neglect, and the licentious habits of his father, yet was the material of his character essentially amiable, generous, and good. Seldom have I seen a young lad surrounded by such disadvantages, so extremely candid and unselfish. He scorned falsehood, abhorred hypocrisy, and never, under any circumstances, or through any temptation, could be induced to lend himself to deceit or fraud. His susceptibility of sympathy and compassion was in keeping with the generosity of his disposition; and, whilst his manners were mild and unassuming, his character was one of singular firmness, courage, and resolution. By his brothers he was looked upon with something approaching to contempt, and the usual term by which his father recognised him was "the Ninny."

"Poor James will never be good for anything," he would say. "He will grow up a ninny, like his Uncle Tom."

This was one of the few observations which usually made Tom speak. On such occasions he would look his brother in the face, take the eternal pipe out of his mouth, and turning the thumb of his left hand over his shoulder, ask, pointing to the two eldest, "And what will they be good for, brother?"

It is not my intention here to enter into any details of the difficulties and struggles which I had to encounter in attempting to educate the two eldest of these blessed youths. It is enough to say that whatever good I accomplished, and it was not much, was by a system of compromise. In the course of a short time I became necessary, nay, indispensable to them; for, in consequence of the lives they had led from their infancy up, and the criminal indulgence they had received at the hands of their parents, they were utterly deficient in the virtue of self-reliance. They could pursue no sport or diversion without me. When out with the fox-hounds, or harriers, if I were not there to witness their feats and to direct them, the sport was dull. Without me



DOCTOR M'CLARET.

without exception, among the landlords of Ireland. It is true he would have fought a duel for one of his tenantry, if he imagined, for instance, that he had received "unfavourable law" from a neighbouring magistrate; but he would not scruple to horsewhip the same tenant on the following day. In fact, he has been known to fight for one of them. On a certain occasion, a farmer of his was summoned before a justice of peace, who lived only a few miles from him, and who was, besides, landlord to the plaintiff. The worthy magistrate having decided in favour of his own tenant, was waited upon next day by Mr. Squander, to whom, as his legitimate protector, the defeated man complained. Squander immediately took fire, paid a visit to the justice, horsewhipped him soundly, and, the next morning, after an exchange of three shots, put a bullet into his hip, which lamed him for life. Hunting, shooting, steeple-chasing, wagering, and convivial debauchery, were the habits of his life. It is true, every Christmas and Easter he whistled the Hundredth Psalm, for he said that no man ought to pass through life without letting his family and dependants see that he was not insensible to religion. Poor Dr. McClaret fell an easy victim to his profuse and impetuous hospitality. On being appointed by Trinity College to the rich living of that parish, he undertook, from the best and purest motives, to work some beneficial change in the licentious habits of the Squire,—a task for which his gentleness and flexibility of character badly qualified him. Instead of reforming Mr. Squander, the latter seduced him into a love of claret, and, ultimately, into the character of an amiable, harmless, but confirmed sot. He also boasted of his intrigues and seductions in presence of his sons, and would conclude by asking them, "Ha! you young dogs, when will any of you ever follow me that?"

"Wait father," Master Dick would say; "give us time—and never fear but I, for one, will prove myself a chip of the old block." A reply which highly delighted his worthy parent.

Mrs. Squander was the daughter of Lord Mount Gallivant, a rakish nobleman—well known in Ireland—whose character for gallantry was such that no parent anxious for the morals and reputation of his daughters would admit him into his family. Unfortunately, she was proud in matters of small importance, and extravagant in her habits of life, though shamefully negligent of her duties as the mistress of a large and expensive establishment. She was actuated by a ridiculous feeling, that any kind of attention to the affairs of her household was beneath a lady of her high birth, whose husband paid a large retinue of servants for the express purpose of managing them. She brought him no fortune; for the jolly Squire, who was influenced by a ludicrous ambition to become connected with an aristocratic family, had married her from that principle; and, indeed, it was to her pride and extravagance that may be traced, in the first instance, that senseless profusion which ultimately ruined him. His establishment, when he brought her home to preside over it, was, God knows, extravagant enough, and such as was far more than sufficient to sustain his position as a country gentleman. Even this, however, was not to her taste. She must make him feel, and let the world know, that his wife ought to hold such a distinguished position as became her high birth. The establishment was consequently re-modelled and amplified to such a standard that, ere the expiration of twelve months, the worthy Squire found himself living at a rate of nearly double his former expenditure, and considerably beyond his income. In appearance Mrs. Squander was tall, very fair-haired, with good eyes, and rather large mouth. Every day in the week, whether they entertained company or not, she went, with due punctuality, through all the ceremonies of the toilet. Indeed, so exact was she in this respect, that she caused every one of her children, before they had reached the



MASTER TOM VISITING ONE OF HIS TENANTS.

the steeple-chase was insipid. It was the same thing with grouse, partridge, or snipe-shooting; and, in whipping the streams, none but Randy could tie their flies to any purpose. I, however, made my bargain; unless they got, satisfactorily, through a certain portion of school-work, I denied them my society in all their sports. By this means I continued to advance them by degrees, until, having mastered their early difficulties, the labour began to get lighter and less repulsive. Such was my system, and, indeed, it was the only one by which either I or any individual living could win them even into reluctant and desultory habits of application. With James I had comparatively little trouble, because his natural talents were good, and his attention indefatigable.

During the first six months I was in the family, I could observe that although the Squire lived at the same profuse and reckless rate, yet he was frequently subject to occasional fits of the deepest gloom and depression. Sometime before this time, my stepfather, in consequence of the reformation of his conduct towards my

brother and sisters, was promoted to the office of bailiff, which my father had filled. The fellow, aware that I resided in his landlord's house, and conscious that any further violence to his step-children must reach me through my sister, and that from me it would assuredly pass to the landlord himself and his sons, deemed it more prudent to change his tone, and assume the hypocrite. Why this man, who I had reason to believe was no favourite with either the Squire himself or any of his family, should have got such an appointment, was, at that time, a secret to me, and perplexed me very much as to the cause of it. It is true, I was then young and unreflecting, but I came to the knowledge of it afterwards. It was a stretch of policy on the part of Master Dick with regard to my sister, and I have no doubt but a similar motive was at the bottom of my own engagement.

I could observe now that the Squire felt great reluctance in sending to the Post-office for his letters; and that when the lad who was in the habit of going for them had returned, and placed them on the breakfast-table—for, owing to the influence of my worthy pupils, I was now allowed to breakfast and dine with the family, unless when they had company—he took them up one by one, and, throwing some of them aside with a peevish air, opened and read such only as he thought were not disagreeable. These unpleasant missives continued to increase both in number and frequency—until, at length, he exclaimed, as if forgetting himself, “Confound me, but I shall soon be a prisoner in my own house!” An expression which startled me very much; but seemed to have no effect whatsoever upon either Dick or Harry.

CHAPTER IV.

A GAUGER OUTWITTED—JAMES SQUANDER'S DEPARTURE FOR COLLEGE.

I HAVE already mentioned the huntsman, Jemmy McScutt, as a dry, cunning old knave; and I must add, here, that there was a sinister expression in his small, keen eye, which could not be mistaken. If any man possessed an extraordinary fertility of invention in everything requiring iniquity and fraud, Jemmy was that man. It was impossible to look at him for a moment without passing at once to the idea of deceit and treachery. There was a perpetual sneer, or what is termed, a white laugh, upon his hard features, which completely dissociated him from everything like candour and truth. He had, in fact, that obvious character of feature which at once tells you that it is utterly impossible even to guess at the process of thought or calculation which is going on within him. Yet was he the most confidential servant in the whole establishment. The truth is, he was looked upon as an oddity, and enjoyed a license of language and action that was permitted to no other domestic in the castle. Jemmy had acted for many years in the capacity of huntsman and trainer to the Squire, and, in the early part of his engagement, rode many of his master's most important races. From this task, however, he was removed, not because the Squire ever doubted his integrity, but because he was not considered *lucky*. Jemmy, however, imputed the want of luck to his master, and relinquished the office of jockey with great apparent alacrity; saying, that it would ruin the character of any jock to ride for a man that is always opposed by Fortune. Be this as it may, for several years before I became an inmate in this family, his master had been losing heavily on the turf; yet, such was his infatuation, that he always guided himself by Jemmy's advice, and clung to the sport with an energy that must have been prompted by some powerful feeling. What that feeling was will appear. There was, however, one individual in the family who did not relish a bone in Jemmy's body, and that was Master Tom. Whether this prejudice on the part of Master Tom resulted from the honest instinct of his truthful heart it is difficult to decide. One thing we knew to be equally clear on the part of Jemmy, which was that he entertained as strong a prejudice against Master Tom as the latter did against him; so that, as the proverb says, “there was no love lost between them.”

I will here mention an exploit of Jemmy's, which, as the conception was original, and as it could occur nowhere but in Ireland, will satisfy the reader that I don't, in the least, overrate his invention. And while on this point I am bound to say, that, in any matter where straightforward honesty and that sagacious integrity which so eminently characterises the great body of commercial life in England, were necessary, there was not a greater blockhead in Europe than our redoubtable huntsman. In order to draw out his talents there must be fraud, over-reaching, and dishonesty. In other words the only morality with which he was imbued, or of which he had any notion, was the morality of the turf.

The reader may remember that Master Dick told me, on the evening I went to pass my examination with the Doctor, that his father had three hogsheads of potent whiskey at one end of the dining-room, to give them what he called, “a seasoning.” Now it so happened that the gauger of the district—a mellow lad himself, and a frequent guest at the Squire's table—had, for good reasons, been removed to a different district, and a stranger put in his place. At all events, the Squire had a few friends—that is to say, about a score—to dine with him, whilst the three large casks aforesaid were still in the same position—exposed to the eye of every one who entered the room. As the party were seated at dinner, one of the servants made his appearance in a state of great alarm and agitation, exclaiming, “Thunder and turf, sir, what's to be done!—the new gauger and the military, your honour, are within two or three perches of the hall-door, and we'll be disgraced in the country for lettin' them bate us. Holy St. Countryman, what will we do—and three hogsheads of it there, lyin' before their eyes? What's to be done, sir?”

“Take your time, Lanty,” said his master; “take your time; is Jemmy here?”

“He's 'ithin, sir, in the kitchen below.”

“Send him up.”

Jemmy, who had been helping himself to something good in the kitchen, entered the dining-room with his usual grave, but significant aspect; and, having gathered the palm of his hand, he wiped his thin, hard lips, which seemed a little greasy.

“Jemmy,” said his master, “we're in a mess. There, as you know, are three hogsheads of potent; and, on the other hand, this cursed new gauger, whom I don't know, assisted by a military officer and a strong guard of soldiers, are at the door. By my honour, there's their knock.”

Jemmy looked at the whiskey, and then at the assembled dinner-party, with his usual sardonic grin; after which, he hitched up his old buckskins, and gave a short cough; which, from whatever cause, set most of them a laughing. In the meantime another knock was given, and his master desired him to be quick.

“What's to be done, you old scoundrel?”

“Contrive, sir, to keep them to-night, or as long as you can, at all events,” replied Jemmy, “and I will see what can be done.”

In the mean time the gauger entered, and was shown into the front-parlour, where the Squire joined him. On entering, the gauger bowed; and, being politely asked his business—

“I am an Excise officer, sir,” he replied; “and have replaced Mr. Bernard Fogarty, within the last few days. I am very sorry, sir, for giving you this trouble; but I act in consequence of information.”

“Of course, sir,” replied the Squire, “you are bound to do your duty.”

“I have had secret intelligence given to me,” proceeded the other, “that there are three hogsheads, or casks of illicit spirits in your dining-room.”

“Pray step in, sir,” replied the Squire, “and you shall see the three casks you speak of.”

The other accordingly did so, and felt somewhat surprised at finding a large dinner-party seated at table; but, what was far more agreeable, the three large casks were there, exactly in accordance with his information.

“You are aware, sir,” he observed, “that my informant has been quite correct.”

“So it seems,” replied the Squire. “Gentlemen this is—by the way, sir,” he added, “I am not able to introduce you—not having the pleasure of knowing your name.”

“My name is Corbet, sir,” replied the other.

“This, gentlemen, is Mr. Corbet, who has been appointed to succeed Mr. Fogarty, the late very respectable Excise officer of this district.”

Mr. Corbet bowed to the company; but very little notice was taken of a man who came not merely to disturb them at such an hour, but to deprive them of many a jolly beverage of the same excellent liquor.

“By the way, Mr. Corbet, you must dine with us,” said the Squire; “your predecessor was a frequent guest of mine; and I trust that you will find the three casks before us no bar to my hospitality, or check upon good-will between us; but, I think that you said that you are accompanied by a military officer and a party of soldiers?”

“I am, sir,” replied the Exciseman; “but, as this kind of duty is not very palatable to the military in general, he declined to come in, until he should be called upon officially by me.”

“Here, Mr. Corbet,” said the Squire, “take a seat, you will have time enough to remove the casks; but, in the meantime, the gentleman must come in and join us; I shall have your horses put up and taken care of, and the men refreshed.”

Accordingly the officer, a fine, dashing young fellow, joined them; and a very seasonable act of hospitality both he and the gauger found it, for the day was both cold and bitter in the extreme.

About forty, or even thirty years ago, it was an easy matter to get into an Irish gentleman's dining-room, but not quite so easy to get out of it, especially in the west. It is sufficient to say here that a very agreeable evening passed, and that the gauger was forced, whether he would or not, to keep it up to the hour at which they went. In the course of the evening the huntsman sent word to his master that he wished to speak to him. On going to the hall, Jemmy addressed him: “Keep your guests, sir,” said he, “until about two o'clock; and have as much uproar, and noise, and singing, as you can—lave the rest to me.”

This was about ten o'clock, and the gauger, whilst the Squire was out of the room, with a keen eye to business, went to the casks to ascertain that they were full, and finding this to be the case, he resumed his seat and seemed satisfied. He was a little scoundrel, with a sour, dissatisfied, ill-tempered face, all the disagreeable points of which were brought out by liquor.

“All right,” said he; “all right; but zounds, I care about no Squire, whatever Fogarty may have done. I'm a man that will always do my duty. I tell you, gentlemen, I am no greenhorn, but have my wits about me night, noon, and morning. I am not just the man to be done, gentlemen; although you pride yourselves here, in the west, for doing the gauger. However, let them

lation it is that compels me and my brave fellows to follow this fellow's beck.”

“I shall report you, sir, for the use of these expressions,” said the gauger.

“You be hanged,” returned the officer. “You are ungrateful, sir, or you wouldn't treat a gentleman with incivility and insolence, at whose hands you have received nothing but kindness and hospitality.”

“Hospitality, sir,” replied the other, “shall never bribe me from doing my duty.”

The Squire again interfered, and peace was restored, but during this little tiff between the officer and the gauger, he contrived to let his friends know Jemmy's wish,—to wit, that they should make as much noise and uproar as possible. And so it was done, until the hour of two o'clock had arrived, at which time a knock came to the door, with an intimation to the gauger that the carts which he had sent for to carry off the spirits had just come, and were now ready.

“All right,” he exclaimed. “Gentlemen, you must excuse me; duty is sacred. Lieutenant Bennet, I will trouble you to order in a party of your men to remove these casks. It is your duty, sir.”

The gallant young fellow looked with a perplexed face at his entertainer, as much as to say, “You see, sir, I have no alternative.” The Squire also felt perplexed, and was about to reply, when Jemmy entered, and with a grin of more than usual bitterness and triumph, said, “Gentlemen, the carts is come; I think, wid submission, it's better that these *useless* casks should be removed at once.”

“Well now,” thought his master, “what the devil can this old scoundrel be at? He surely would not be mad enough to raise the tenantry and attempt to rescue them, by which means many lives must be necessarily lost.”

“I must go, sir,” said the soldier rising; “but I protest to Heaven it is the most painful and disagreeable duty I was ever called on to perform.”

He accordingly went out, and almost immediately returned with a dozen men into the room.

“Now, sir,” said he, “there are the men for you, give them their orders.”

“Here, men,” said the gauger, bloated now with liquor and a consciousness of authority. “Remove these three casks,—one at a time, you will find them heavy.”

The soldiers who, by the way, had been supplied with abundant refreshments in one of the outhouses, approached the casks, and, to their utter surprise, as well as to that of all present, found every one of them empty.

“These casks are all empty, sir,” said the men; “there is nothing in them,” and they rolled them about with their feet in order to satisfy him of the fact.

“Your men are drunk, sir,” said Corbet, addressing himself to their commander.

“Certainly not, sir,” replied the other coolly. “I wish you were as sober.”

All that now remained for the discomfited still-hound was to ascertain the fact for himself; but, alas the day! or, rather, alas the night! it was a melancholy truth. The three casks, instead of being filled with stout mellow poteen, as they had been three or four hours before, contained nothing now but thin air. To describe the disconsolate visage and chagrin of the gauger would be impossible.

“Zounds! I am done, at last,” he exclaimed; “done before my



THE PARTY.

do me that can, that's all I say; I have never been done yet, and I'll take good care that I never shall be. Any man that can, I will shake hands with him, and say he knows a thing or two, that's all. There they are,” he added, pointing to the casks, “and I'll have them, that's the chat.”

“Perfectly right, my friend,” replied the Squire; “but, in the meantime, gentlemen, let us enjoy ourselves. I can only be fined. Well, I am able to pay the fine, that is one comfort; but come, let us stick to our liquor, and make a night of it. I suppose, Mr. Corbet, you won't disturb us by removing these casks to-night; it will be time enough in the morning.”

“By Jusus,” said the Coroner, “if he'd attempt to disturb the present company by removing them, I'd be sitting on his beggarly carcase in less than a week, and make the jury bring in a verdict of ‘Died by a righteous judgment.’”

“I care for no man,” replied Corbet, peevishly. “I've sent for the carts to remove them, and if they come in time, it must and shall be done.”

Here a dozen voices exclaimed, “Throw him out—throw the ungrateful scoundrel out; he is entitled to no forbearance.”

“Gentlemen,” said the Squire; “remember he is my guest, and that, by all the rules of hospitality, I am bound to protect him. Don't be alarmed, Mr. Corbet,” he added. “You shall experience no opposition in removing them.”

The young officer felt indignant at the insolent conduct of the gauger. “I assure you, gentlemen,” he observed, “there is no duty, to the discharge of which we are called, that presses upon us with such a sense of pain, and disgust, and degradation, as that which forces us to accompany a still-hound like this, upon such cursed expeditions. It is a disgrace to our service, and to an honourable profession, so to employ us. What a cursed regu-

own face; and, what is worse, I shall be dismissed besides. I could take my oath the three casks were full when I first entered this room, and for two hours afterwards.”

“And that,” observed the Coroner, “is the very fact that will dismiss you. Now, I'll tell you what, my Trojan, had you been civil and agreeable, instead of being thankless and insolent, it might have been overlooked; but, as sure as my name is Jack Finigan, and as sure as your Inspector is my cousin, your date as a Revenue officer will be but short.”

At this moment Jemmy entered the room, and, approaching the discomfited gauger, said, as he extended his hand, callaginous palm, “Shake hands, sir. I think I heard you say, a while ago, that you would like to do so with anyone that could over-reach you. You're a keen looking little *sprissawn*; but, be my soul, you never saw the day you could measure brains wid Jemmy McScutt. Gentlemen, give me a glass of something till I drink the codger's health. Here's to you, and don't you look purty, standing there? Here's to you, and may you always be as successful. Faith, your mother may be proud of you.” And, so saying, he emptied his glass, amidst the roars of the company, at the unfortunate exciseman, and skulked, with a double grin on him, out of the room.

Owing to the solicitations of the Squire, however, the Coroner represented the matter to his cousin in such a light as occasioned him to be only reduced; but reduced to the very lowest step in the service.

And now the reader will ask how Jemmy contrived to empty the casks without disturbing the company. By the aid of a long augur, he first bored a hole through the boards of the loft, then stuffed a sufficient quantity of paste between the cask and the boards to prevent the whiskey from flowing about the room, after

which he bored another hole in the cask itself, and received the spirits, which gushed down, into different vessels, from which it was immediately transferred into smaller casks, and then carried off to a safe place in a neighbouring bog, where it was buried.*

One of Jemmy's constant companions was a dwarfish misshapen mannikin, called Bunty Scrag—a creature who passed for a fool; but was, nevertheless, a knave of the first water. He lived in the family of another sporting gentleman, who resided within a couple of miles of Castle Squander, and who was hand and glove with its proprietor. This character, whom we shall designate by the name of O'Canter, was considered, and with truth, not only the shrewdest man on the Irish turf, but also one of the most fortunate. It was well known, indeed, that he was tricking and unscrupulous; but, being too cunning and dexterous in his manoeuvres, he never allowed himself to violate, in any tangible manner, the regulations of the sport. He was cheerful, hospitable, and remarkable for a strong brogue, and meek deportment; yet, in spite of the general suspicions and impressions of his being a thorough black-leg, he was able to maintain his ground

"With you, James," I replied, "I had no difficulty. Your talents are good, and you were assiduous in your studies. Had your brothers been equally so, they might have made a more satisfactory progress—for they are neither of them without a considerable share of intellect, if they would only use it."

"Whatever talents I possess," he replied, with emotion, "I feel that they will constitute my only fortune in life."

"What!" I replied, "and your father in possession of twelve thousand a year!"

"My father," said he, bursting into tears, "is a ruined man. His property is overloaded with mortgages; and, indeed, considering the extravagant rate at which he has lived for years, it could not be otherwise. There is a scandalous race—a senseless—an insane competition among the gentry of the country at large, as to who will surpass the other in show, equipage, hospitality, and that prodigality of expenditure which is considered the exponent of wealth and fortune. Not that I believe my father is worse off than others; for the fact is, that almost every man of his class is, at this moment, in a state of bankruptcy. He may weather it out for some years; but, as for me, I feel

"Don't you know he is. Get up and see him."

"Poor James!" said he; "I'm very fond of James; but I have a severe headache, Randy; tell him so, and I am sure the kind-hearted boy will excuse me. Say I'm ill, which is the fact, otherwise I would go down with pleasure."

"Shall I bring him up to you, then?"

"No, Randy, I would rather not; I might feel too much, and the agitation might aggravate my headache. So might he, poor boy; he is, like myself, possessed of too much sensibility, and I think we ought to spare his feelings, poor lad. Say I'll write to him, and, in the meantime, give him my love."

I need scarcely assure the reader that the indignation which I felt against the two heartless young scoundrels was such as I cannot now clothe in language, especially against Harry, the hypocrite, whom I cursed in my heart. On entering the front parlour, I found his sister Emily in tears, his uncle Tom quite pale with sorrow, his father and his mother, the latter in a temporary dishabille, as she intended to return to bed the moment he was off. I apologised, as well as I could, for his brothers, and when poor James heard me a single tear ran down each cheek, but he cleared his throat and assumed more firmness. His sister Emily had her arm about his neck, as if she could scarcely part with him at all; he had been her favourite.

"Well," said he, rising up, "I must go. Dear mother, farewell,—farewell, dearest mamma!" and, as he spoke, he threw his arms about her neck, kissed her, and wept. She removed him from her a little, and putting a hand on each cheek, kissed his forehead, and said, with a cold aristocratic formality, that started my indignation afresh, "Farewell, James; you are going where you will meet young men of high rank and family, and let me beseech you never to forget that you are the grandson of a nobleman." She then kissed him again coldly on the forehead, and went up to bed.

"Ah!" thought I; "it is always better to be born near nature!"

The poor Squire's countenance was charged with sorrow, or rather with an affliction deeper than the mere temporary separation from his son could have produced. There was, besides, a look of compassion and remorse in his features that could not for a moment be mistaken. James, when his mother had gone, turned to him—approached him—and, throwing himself into his arms, wept aloud. His father pressed him to his heart, laid his head upon his breast, and I could perceive the tears rain down from his convulsed cheeks upon the face of his son.

"My darling, my noble boy!" he exclaimed, "I feel my heart smitten by the injustice which I have done you. You have much to forgive me for, dear James; but I am punished by the remorse I feel. Your uncle told me all—and of your magnanimous resolution to relieve me, by your own exertions, from the burthen of your support. Forgive me, dear James, that I did not understand you in time; and now, perhaps, it is too late."

The boy then turned to his sister, who wept upon his bosom, kissed him, and seemed as if she would never let him go. I then interfered; and said that time was pressing, and he might be too late for the coach.

"James," said Emily, "whatever you may remember, don't forget that you are my brother—my best beloved brother—and I trust you will never do anything that will call a blush to your sister's cheek."

"Come," said Master Tom, in a low voice, which he was afraid to trust, "Randy and I will see you to the coach. Richard," said he to his brother, "go to bed. God bless you, dear Richard—God bless you!—and you, too, Emily must go to bed—kiss me, darling."

She kissed him, weeping, and we then departed, leaving the father and daughter, each in deep sorrow, behind us in the hall.

Poor Tom proved himself a hero and a philosopher. He attempted to get jocular—talked with a vivacity and fluency which I had never witnessed before. There was, however, a villanous tremor in his voice, which no hypocrisy of affection could disguise or conceal. On helping James into the coach he slipped a purse into his hand, then squeezed it—the coach drove off; and, after following it with his eye until it turned a corner and got out of sight, he stared at me as if I had been a spectre; then, taking my arm, we returned, in silence, to the castle. As we went along, I felt how necessary my support was to him, his arm, within mine, being tremulous, and his steps feeble. On entering the front drawing-room, he sat down, and I then saw that he was in tears. I did not speak to him, nor make any attempt to interrupt his grief—which was, in consonance with his character, deep and quiet. After some time, however, he said to me—

"Randy, you don't know the value of that boy."

"Perfectly, sir," I replied; "I had a conversation with him last night, in his own room, that confirmed and extended every favourable impression I had previously entertained of him."

"Did he tell you," said he, "that, from this day forth, it is his intention never to be a burthen upon his father?"

"Well, no," I replied; "not exactly that."

"No," replied his uncle; "he would not mention that to any one but me. Such, however, is his resolution. But he shall not want a friend. However, what pleases me best, is his father—thank God, he now understands him, and knows his value."

Neither Emily nor her uncle returned to bed; and, I need scarcely say, that the breakfast that morning was a melancholy one. His uncle, his sister, and I partook of that meal about ten o'clock—the other members of the family about two.

(To be continued in our next.)

THE BEGINNING AND THE END.

A STORY OF THE GALLOWS.

'T is a calm and quiet evening, season of peaceful rest, When, nestling warm, the infant sleeps upon her mother's breast; When homeward hies the father, his daily task all done, And with mirth and laugh to greet him his happy children run.

But quiet evening deepens into dark and solemn night; In a corner of the sleeping town, sacred to blood and blight, Breaking the midnight silence, his task a workman plies Where on the morrow's coming morn a human creature dies!

See! in his prison's stone-bound cell, marking the fleeting time, Borne down with stupor, crushed with thought, paces the Man of Crime; From neighbouring church each passing hour strikes through the darkling gloom— And to-morrow, full of life and breath, he meets a felon's doom.

Brothers! look back upon his life:—see him, the child of shame, Who, save in oath or savage curse, ne'er heard the Sacred name; Whose child-life was all darkness,—who, reared in sin and guile, Ne'er knew a father's teaching, ne'er felt a mother's smile!

In a noisome, crowded cellar, his infant breath he drew, Want was his tutor, Sin his guide—the only ones he knew; Through crooked ways of Vice and Crime his earliest pathway ran, Until the warp'd, untutor'd boy became the desperate man!



THE DEPARTURE.

with great plausibility. Perhaps he would have found this difficult, but being a regular fire-eater, he was ready to make any doubt of, or insinuation against, his honour, a matter of personal insult, to be decided only by a meeting at ten or twelve paces.

Now it was in this man's family, or rather in his stables, that Bunty Scrag lived, for Bunty's delight was to pass his life among horses. The little scoundrel was gifted with such an astonishing memory of everything connected with the turf, that the Stud-book was fallible compared to him. He was master of the pedigree and performances of every horse in the three kingdoms, and had the reputation of being the best judge of a racer in Ireland. In nineteen cases out of twenty he never failed to place the horses, on seeing them brought to the post, or rather long before it, for no private trial ever took place that he did not contrive to witness. In fact, he was a most accomplished touter. Many of these faculties, however, were, by no means generally known; and, in order to give himself, or rather his master, O'Canter, the full advantage of this sagacious instinct, he always took care to make a sufficient number of mistakes to diminish the impression that might be felt as to the correctness of his judgment. All we will say at the present time is, that this dwarfish little knave and the huntsman were on terms of the greatest confidence; Jemmy and his master, O'Canter, being, probably, the only two who were thoroughly aware of his sagacity.

I was now about two years in the family, and, I must confess, that I could not look upon the wasteful and riotous habits which I was forced to witness, without great pain. Among the other propensities of Mr. Squander, as I had long before this discovered, was that of deep play, especially with his neighbour, O'Canter. That he ever could have been successful was impossible, for he drank whilst he played, and was besides utterly deficient in coolness and temper.

Another piece of extravagance to which he was addicted, in common, I must say, with most of the gentry of the West, was a habit of wagering large sums upon the most trivial arguments, especially such as were connected with the turf, play, and other subjects. "I'll bet you five pounds I'm right." "I'll bet you ten pounds—twenty—fifty"—and so on; and all these wagers should be paid.

When I was three years in the family, James, the youngest, insisted on entering college, and asked his father to allow me to enter along with him, adding that I could afford him very great assistance in his studies. To this his father at once assented.

"Certainly, James, and he shall have an ample allowance for his support."

This would have gratified me very much, but neither Dick nor Harry would listen to it. The former got into one of his towering passions, and asked, were they about to be deprived of the only companion and friend with whom they ever could agree. He, for one, would not stand that. The thing was, accordingly, given up, and I was forced to remain in what I felt to be a falling house.

On the evening before James's departure for the university, he asked me to sit awhile with him in his room. At this period, I ought to say, that I had been admitted to their dinner-parties, and even to the drawing-room. I accordingly went, and found him by himself, evidently in depressed spirits, which, indeed, was natural, as he had never been a day absent from his family before. There was a decanter of wine upon the table, which was for my use, as the poor boy seldom drank himself.

"Randy," said he, "before I go, I think it my duty to thank you deeply and sincerely for the pains you have taken, and the anxiety you have felt, in advancing my education. I don't think I would be justified in separating from you without giving expression to what I feel to be due to you. You had a very difficult card to play with my brothers, and perhaps no other individual could have managed them as you did. If you have not made scholars of them, you have, at all events, saved them from the disgrace of being absolutely illiterate, and that is as much, perhaps more, than any one else could accomplish. As for me, I feel deeply, as I said, the obligations which I owe you."

* This is a fact.

that I must depend upon my own energies and talents; and such is my resolution."

I felt the truth of this; but, at the same time, I determined not to appear to go with him in the views he had expressed.

"James," said I, "you are now depressed by a separation from your family, and you, consequently, overdraw the picture."

"No," he replied; "I have my own reasons for what I say; but that which distresses me most, is the reflection of what will become of my dear sister Emily. Poor mamma, too—when the crash comes—how will she sustain it?"

He again shed tears bitterly, and I endeavoured to console him as well as I could; at length he proceeded—

"There is one man in our establishment whom I suspect to be a most treacherous and ungrateful villain."

"Pray who is he?" I asked.

"Jemmy, the huntsman," he replied; "he is a bosom friend of the vile dwarf, Bunty Scrag, who is in the service of that plausible black-leg, O'Canter. Now, my father has lost thousands upon thousands on the turf, and the heaviest of his losses have been always to O'Canter. I feel an impression, which I cannot shake off, that the huntsman has regularly sold him to this swindler, and been one principal cause of his embarrassments. My father is honourable, generous, and without suspicion, and will not hear a word said against old Jemmy; but, as I said, I feel that my impressions with regard to him are right. Besides, I understand that he lived with O'Canter's father before he came to us; and it was this very O'Canter, who, when commencing his career as a sportsman, recommended him to my father—and, as I suspect, for his own purposes. I mention this to you," he proceeded, "because I wish you to keep your eye upon him—upon Bunty Scrag—and, if possible, upon O'Canter also. I do not ask this upon my own account, but perhaps it may prove an act of kindness and friendship to my father."

"It is a curious enough coincidence of opinion, James," I replied; "for, I assure you, I myself have entertained strong suspicions of Jemmy the huntsman's integrity; and you may rest assured that I shall keep a strict eye on him, and, as far as opportunity will enable me, upon the other two, besides."

"My dear Randy," he proceeded, "I have much more cause of sorrow than you can imagine. My poor Uncle Tom—who, if ever a man was without spot or stain, is—he too, I fear, will suffer. His little property, of three hundred a year, will go—for he will refuse my father nothing; and poor Emily, too, to whom her uncle left twelve thousand pounds—absolutely at her own disposal—is too affectionate and generous to see my father degraded in the face of the country; she, too, will be involved in the ruin. Alas!—my dear Randy—I leave home with a heavy and foreboding heart. You are the only person, with the exception of my uncle, to whom I have unbosomed myself; and I appeal to you whether I have not sufficient cause."

I felt my heart warm to this fine boy, and sympathised with him from my very soul, because, as I said before, I had no doubt that his apprehensions were but too well founded. Still I assumed a cheerful aspect, strove to diminish his fears for the future, and, filling my glass, took his hand and drank a brilliant career to him through college;—upon which we parted.

The next morning early I was up to see him off, but, to my surprise, neither Dick nor Harry made their appearance. They had caroused it deeply the night before, and did not feel themselves in a condition to rise at such an hour. I went to their respective bedrooms, and besought them, for the sake of common decency, to get up and see their brother before he went.

"What the devil did you disturb me for?" said Dick; "do you think I'd rise at this hour, for father, or mother, or sister, or brother? Where's the use of it? Can't he take a run to Dublin without me seeing him? He's not going to be hanged, I'm sure, that we should go to take an everlasting farewell of him. Go to blazes—out of this," he said, "and let me sleep!"

I then passed to Harry's bedroom, and awoke him. "Won't you get up," said I, "and see your brother James before he goes?"

"Ah," said he, stretching himself and yawning, "poor James! is he going then?"

The only school he ever knew was in the prison cell,
His teaching was in sin and wrong—he mark'd his tutors well!
His wisdom was in cunning, in fraud and lie his truth,
And the hangman ends the lesson *we* taught him in his youth!

The night has pass'd, the morn has come, beaming with cheerful
light,
To gladden man on busy earth, to aid him in his fight;
Surely a type of endless life the glorious dawn was given,
When clouds and darkness pass away,—when comes the light of
heaven!

The gallows reads its lesson, once more its tale it tells,
With words of Christian preacher! with sound of Christian bells!
And, in eager haste to read it, gathers fast a heaving crowd,
With ribald song, and hideous jest, and curses deep and loud.

Brothers! 'tis time these scenes should end; we judge the full-
grown man,
And leave the boy to fight his way through life as best he can;
No friend stands by to teach him, no hand is raised to save;
Untaught, forgotten, ignorant, he fills his felon's grave!

Brothers! this horrid death-tree—let it no longer stand,
Shedding its ghastly upas-shade o'er England's Christian land!
The New Year's waiting at the door, meet time for love and good,
Brothers, be up and doing,—root out this fiend of blood!

Down with it over all the land! Where tower'd its crimson head,
Build school to teach, build church to preach, give men their
daily bread!

With the Old Year dying outward, let this blatant falsehood
cease,

And to all in happier England may the coming year bring Peace!

WHAT IS LIFE?



HE prostiest of men, as well as the most imaginative,—the lonely weaver at his monotonous labour, and the spent dandy in his sickly morning,—the hot-eyed sempstress, and the gorgeous lady,—the dullest book-keeper, and the grandest poet,—have asked themselves, in various moods, one question,—“What is life?” The answers to this universal query would fill volumes. In each reply there is a view of the respondent's life. Let us glance at a few of them.

The first gentleman who undertakes to define life for us is not of the most amiable cast of mind; decidedly not the gentleman we should be inclined to make a voyage round the world with. He begs to inform us that life is a desolate journey, beset at every step by briers. Not at all an encouraging prospect to young people, flushed with hope, who are starting on the voyage,—who are just about to put their first finger upon the treacherous thorns. This gentleman we recognise as of that peculiar class who put mourning upon brides,—reminding them, just by way of damping their present happiness,—that the morrow may find their lover in his grave. Not quite a reasonable course this, in our opinion. We all know that death is inevitable, and not a few of us, let us hope, do something as we proceed in life, to fortify us for the approach of the enemy when he advances upon us. But why be sniffing continually at the door of the channel-house?

Another individual approaches with a definition. He is a solemn man, not to be lightly approached by any one. He is not to be trifled with on any occasion. We should say he did not smile on his wedding-day. Life, he tells us, is but a journey to the grave; therefore, men are to pucker their faces into the most serious expression, and live near an undertaker. This is a most melancholy gentleman, who wears his sadness as other men wear holiday looks,—who is, in fact, very proud of his solemn aspect. He shines at funerals; and perhaps the proudest moment of his life was when, as chief mourner, he followed his father to the grave, between rows of staring strangers.

And now comes a jovial reckless fellow. He is a little worn, we think, and the brightness of his eye suggests the use of artificial stimulants. He is a thoroughly careless man. Careless of dress, careless as a husband, careless as a father, particularly careless in business,—and careful only to imbibe his proper, or rather improper, quantity of spirits before going to bed. Yet he, with all his *laissez faire* logic, has his definition of life. He brings it out patly enough, ask him when you may,—to him life is a farce. He is, at bottom, a hapless individual, with very little faith in the social virtues; inclined to laugh at heroism and to palliate ruffianism; yet, himself, a thoroughly good-hearted fellow.

A pretty girl now trips towards us with her definition. She is of the sentimental school; we see that at once. She has a white rose in her hair; her cheek is pale, and she sighs frequently. “Life,” she says, “is a flower,—to-day, bright and beautiful, and to-morrow, nipt by the frost.” We thought so; exactly the definition we expected. She is a young lady who, possessing much natural sense, and having one day opened an odd volume of philosophy, conceives that she has an insight not vouchsafed to common mortals,—that she is etherealised, and that all her thoughts must be conveyed to the outer world in metaphors. She is passionately fond of flowers, adores the megatherium, and has much to say (out of an elementary geological work) on the tertiary formation. She informs her partner, in the course of a quadrille, that experience teaches her that she exists as a tangible reality, but philosophy tells her she only exists in her imagination. Many readers have met the young lady. The last we heard of her was, that she had adopted the Bloomer costume, and expected a cornetcy in one of her Majesty's household regiments.

And now we are to observe a very sallow young gentleman, buried in the muslin and gauze of a dozen young ladies, who are listening with open mouths. We remark that the young gentleman's hair is worn extremely long, and parted down the middle of his head. The world is allowed to see much of this young gentleman's neck, we also perceive. A glance at his shirt-collar,—completing the solemn picture—we recognise the unacknowledged poet; the injured individual who haunts the coteries of Islington to while away time, till posterity pronounces a final and triumphant verdict on his poems, entitled, “Sarah Anne, and other Verses.” Here he is, an infinitely condescending Apollo, and the young ladies, not without trepidation, hint that they have blank leaves in their albums. To one he gives an impromptu written on the summit of Mont Blanc; to another favoured lady he presents his lines on the decease of a faithful spaniel; and, to a third, he offers an answer to the great question. Here it is: “Life is a rapid river, flowing into a mysterious sea.” This definition, according to the poet's confidential friend, is true poetry,

for “it leaves plenty to the imagination.” Our poet deals in the vague and mysterious exclusively; and dandles Death through his verses with that sportive activity which, according to himself, only truly great minds can comprehend. He plays at football with the destinies, and terrifies young ladies by the levity with which he alludes to all that is solemn in life, and terrible in death. All this is a great pity; he would have made a capital banker's clerk. But, luckily, one of his circle has the hardihood to rebuke the presumption of his verse; to advise the cutting of his hair, and the danger in which his exposed neck runs. This bold friend is a lady, who, if she have any pride, is proud of the gentleman she “sits under.” She is an uneasy maiden female of five-and-thirty, who thinks that jewellers should be indicted for openly displaying wedding-rings in their shop-windows. Her coffin is continually before her eyes. She has the profoundest conviction of the uncertainty of things, and is known to have rebuked a jovial party for appointing a future picnic, without reflecting that they might all be in their graves before the day arrived. She tells her friends that life is a thread, snapt in an instant. She has lately advertised for a situation as a cheerful companion to a nervous or hypochondriacal person.

And now let us stop another passenger in the great thoroughfare of the world. Care has tattooed his face terribly; lines intersect every inch of his forehead; his eyes lie back from the daylight, under his puckered brow; coarse lines ramble about his mouth;—we linger no longer over the picture: he has fought a great, stern battle with the world, and has lost. The honey of his young nature has turned to gall. He has not a smile left for any of us. Well, not a few of these stern men pace our London streets, with sixty years upon their shoulders, and empty purses in their pockets. They are men who have prospered in the beginning, and failed in the end. And they whisper in the ears of the flushed youths who hasten past them in the great struggle, words of sad import,—syllables that slacken the vigour of young blood often. Life, our tattooed friend declares, is a hideous nightmare. Toil, and fret, and woe, encompassing us all, at every step we advance, only bid us farewell when the sexton takes us in hand.

Not by any two of us, in short—not by the bride and bridegroom at God's altar—is the question answerable in the same phrase. We have a letter from an old-fashioned friend of ours, who has adopted an answer to the question under discussion, as his seal. A vessel (whether brig or schooner the engraver has not allowed us to determine) is rolling tremendously upon a red cornelian sea, so that it is evident to the most inexperienced spectator she cannot keep above water, or above cornelian, many minutes. Under this terrible picture are these words:—“Such is Life!” Life, to a vast number of persons, is a path of various widths: to the very serious it is the narrowest of paths; to the jocose, it is a broad and pleasant highway; to the young, it is a green lane, hedged with flowers, and arched over with the “crescent-promise” of the rainbow; to the sceptical, it is a maze. To another crowd of individuals, life presents itself in various spaces of time; to thousands it is a brief hour, and, to the particularly philosophic, a second, and no more. An impetuous friend interposes with his definition, and as it represents, in some way, the class of answers we should receive from the numbers who go through life, panting all the way with the speed of their progress, we give it. Life, says our impetuous friend, is a flash of lightning.

The vexed question has, in truth, so many answers, that they might fill thick octavo volumes. Every poet, every statesman, every essayist, every philosopher, has had his epigrammatic reply to our question. Mr. Carlyle starts forward with one—

“What is life? A thawing ice-board
On a sea with sunny shore—
Gay we sail—it melts beneath us,
We are sunk, and seen no more.”

Generally, to assure us of its rapid extinction, have poets written types of life. According to one poet it is “a sweet delusion;” while another plaintively asks—

“Oh Life! is all thy song
Endure, and—die?”

Surely, not in any sense can life be so interpreted; for, if it were so, in vain would the poet's song be, and all unnoticed the mid-day lark might make the heavens musical to us. Other poetical friends approach with definitions:

“Our life is an idle boat
Along a winding river.”

Here a gleam of philosophy lights the burden. Idle the boat is, generally, compared with its capacity for navigation, and little often do we accomplish of the mighty sum of labour that lies in the hands of the weakest of us; but not altogether contemptible are our realisations, and it is hardly for us, with all our weakness of purpose, to cry aloud woe and sadness, and let the boat float errandless and empty out to sea.

We are fairly besieged with definitions now. Life is a boat, an iceberg, a muddy stream, a pellucid river, a game at chess, the toss of a coin; a bubble, a comedy, a tragedy, a burlesque, a poem to the end, a dull passage of prose, an ebbing tide, a sandbank, a dream, a fitful fever, &c., &c., &c. It is interpreted by a thousand images, because it has its thousand phases,—because it is supportable, or insupportable, according to the realisations of each individual. It is a dream to those who wander through the world with their hands in their pockets, as Longfellow infers:

“Tell me not, in mournful numbers,
Life is but an empty dream;
For the soul is dead that slumbers,
And things are not what they seem.”

To the heated speculator, busy with the rise and fall of funds, it is the toss of a coin, to the indifferent, it is a comedy; to few, indeed, let us hope, is it a dull passage of prose; and to fewer still may it be a tragedy; but many many say with Longfellow again—

“Life is real—life is earnest,
And our hearts, though stout and brave,
Still, like muffled drums are beating,
Funeral marches to the grave.”

And now we must close our chapter of definitions. Not to doleful music would we give our own particular definition; but rather to a cheerful measure, full of harmony, a touch of tenderness here and there, always a thoroughly correct and earnest accompaniment, and happy light airs treading upon the mournful burdens, to relieve the whole.

A CHAPTER ON BIOGRAPHY.

(THE WOODCUTS FROM THE NATIONAL ILLUSTRATED LIBRARY
EDITION OF “BOSWELL'S LIFE OF JOHNSON.”)

As MR. DISRAELI'S “Life of Bentinck” is lying on our table, the opportunity seems a favourable one of saying a few words on biography and biographies, *apropos* of it. “While there is Life, there is Hope,” says the proverb; and so long as there is really a brave, genial, or great life led on the earth, so long may we hope to have a good biography of it. But, unfortunately, this hope has hitherto been very little realised. Literature is very deficient in the biographical department. Most biographers, in fact, do with their subjects as Jack Ketch does with his—choke the life out, and dispose of the clothes.

Do you understand the metaphor, gentle reader?—All that was real, human, vivacious about the poor fellow vanishes: there remain only the outside phenomena of his appearance here. The biographer conceives that he has done his duty when he has communicated to you, in a faint way, how his hero looked rather than what he was.

We are not very fond of dividing a subject into various “heads”—having observed that, in these cases, the heads usually prove to be without brains; but we may venture on classifying Biographies, in general, into two great classes. One of these is the personal; the other the historical. One comprises those works to which the name of “Memoirs” is applied; the other those more strictly and properly named “Lives.” One gives the man, personally, humanly, dramatically, as he appeared to the sympathetic writer whose aim is to give the man as a man; the other gives the man's life and story as they appeared to the writer, who studied them as a problem of which he professes to give the solution. Either biography may be excellent, but the requisite for the writer of the first is ingenuitiveness; of the second, genius. A first-rate one, of the first class, may be written by a man of very ordinary talent; a good one of the second class, only by a great man. Let us add that the good one of the first class will always be the most attractive; and that the bad biographies of the world generally belong to the second. Literature contains a model of each species in its brightest and best development—of the first, in the English “Boswell;” of the second, in the “Agricola” of Tacitus.

So far, the patient reader, we hope, understands and accompanies us; but we tie him down with strictness to no classification. The qualities of each order of works may often be found in the other. For, just as mankind, though divisible broadly into black men and white men, yet run through pretty well all shades of colour—yellowish, coppery, &c., &c.—from white and pink Emilys up to the intense nigritude of Sambo—so do their human and literary qualities blend into one another. The beer of Barclay differs from the beer of Meux—but both liquids are beer! And in a hundred biographies of ordinary character you may see an infinitesimal quantity of the Tacitus and Boswell elements, both. And, immensely as the two said writers differ, Tacitus has something of Boswell; and Boswell something (though little) of Tacitus; not to mention the important point of resemblance, that each is most heartily in earnest in writing about his hero! This brings us to observation A. 1:—*viz.*, that in biography this love of the hero is the very essence of the affair. Why must Dr. Mc Splutter write the life of a Reformer, Genius, and Saint, when he himself is neither of the three—and is just the man who would have roasted his hero if he had been his contemporary? Why must Hicks write a “Life of Chatterton,” who would have thought him an intolerable bore? Why will Spoonby concoct a biography of Walpole, who would have cut him in Pall Mall, and impaled him on an epigram at Strawberry Hill? The truth is, that what each of these worthies admires in his hero is really his fame and worldly greatness. Biographies are constantly written by men, too, from reasons purely literary, and, indeed, accidental. A life of some poet is wanted, and the author forthwith commences on it, as he would on a brick-wall; that finished, he will be at leisure to begin on a military conqueror; both works selling tolerably, the industrious fellow will take a martyr in hand. Sympathy, similarity of mind are never taken into account; a biography *de convenance* is the result. *Hinc illæ lacrymæ* (as they say in the House of Commons)—hence come the bad biographies of the world, which are as hollow and unaffectionate as the sham, “broken columns” in a new cemetery—though, even in that, the excellent regulation prevails that “no dogs are admitted!” Surely there can be no reason why I should devote my life to the illustration of another life, except that I unaffectionately love it, and am personally really related to it. The “Song of Songs”—is it not the noblest, because the most loving in the world?

So much by way of introduction. Keeping in view our original classification, let us take a glance at some genuine biographies. That antiquity should present such is not wonderful. Theirs was, if we may say so, a biographical life. They lived in public so much; they knew their notable men so well, personally. They were constantly expressing human life in architecture, sculpture—which were biographies in stone. They had their monuments by the highways; and they were thus recalled to biography by them as they passed along. The most famous book, perhaps, in the whole of antiquity is, very naturally, “Plutarch's Lives;” perhaps it is the only book of which we may say that the translation of it has become naturalised. Several authors of antiquity are more read in the original; but “Langhorne's Plutarch” is an English book. Somehow the old gentleman has merged into the modern life almost altogether—as the Norman gentry have become Englishmen. This is, above everything, a proof of the genuineness of the book—as Dryden pronounces that to be true wit which is equally witty in all tongues. It shows how little his charm, at all events, depends on form. For “Horace” in translation suffers infinitely, for example; and the “Agricola” in English would not be the “Agricola” of Tacitus.

In assigning Plutarch to either of our classifications, we must note that the personal charm of his book depends somewhat on his union of the characters of both orders. Himself a “philosopher,” and an instructor of youth, he always, of course, has to pronounce his judgment on his heroes; out come the scales at the close of each “Life,” and Greek and Roman pendulate before the sage's eye. And such an eye! That is no eye for Rhadamanthine judgment! We exclaim. That is a fine, rich, living eye—gleaming from a homely face. The real quality in the man is the warm cordiality with which he loves and honours all that is lovely and honourable. This is far predominant over every literary quality, such as belong to fine intellects, in him. His charm is as a narrator or pure medium of communication. His business is not to reflect, but to transmit properly. He has Boswellian qualities—but then he is the Boswell of all the Johnsons. Not that even “Plutarch's Lives” is equal as a biography to “Boswell!” But Boswell could not have Boswellised the Johnsons of the Days of Alfred, had he investigated the history for a hundred years. We apportion then this old Greek—this poetico-pedantic writer—this sublimely parochial spirit, who writes of the conquests of the world so happily in his little native town—this quiet, obscure, retired teacher, whose grandfather had once the honour of receiving a gentleman who had visited Cleopatra's kitchen, and whose memory is a million times dearer to mankind than Mark Antony's—to our first order. His work was, indeed, a work of love. The old heroic light of the ancient times was reflected on him, just at its sunset. Strange, is it not, how one life—like the drop of water in the Eastern fable—happens to fall, luckily, where it best could fall, and so—becomes a pearl! You remember the story?—Plutarch might have lived somewhat earlier, and been killed in battle;—somewhat later, and have been out of his elemental traditions altogether.

The “Agricola,” again, has always been considered—and with great justice—one of the “crack” biographies of literature. It is a classic work—not using that word in the sense in which it is used by bores; but as implying perfection of type. One reverts to the “Agricola” when one thinks of biography, as the mention of Italy suggests sunshine, heat, and beauty. There

is the same difference between it and one of "Plutarch's Lives" as there is between Johnson's "Life of Savage" and a "Life" by Isaac Walton. It is a difference of *genus*. When we say that the "Agricola" heads the class opposite to that to which Plutarch, Walton, and Boswell belong, we are not to be understood as excluding it from the possession of the heart-qualities of these writers. There is no less feeling in a finished and profound lyric by Tennyson, than in one of the simple, heart-free ballads in such collections as Percy's. The "Agricola" is critical, exact, profound, severe, and still gives a human portrait of the subject of it, which has all the touching reality of the homeliness of Plutarch, or the piety of Bunyan. The one writer writes as a judge—stamps himself on what he writes with intellectual superiority, while retaining his proper brotherly sympathy: the other writer has not the faculties of a judge, and is less self-conscious, and makes his own personality more simply apparent in what he does. Both works are works of genius; the former is also, properly, more a work of art. Viewed as a work of art, then, the "Agricola" is notable for being what the Latins were wont to call *totus teres atque rotundus*. It is rounded off so wonderfully—round and white as Leda's egg. Within the compass of his forty-six little chapters, in the space of a review article, Tacitus gives us his great father-in-law's life complete—his expedition to Britain—his character—Britain's relation to Rome—the Imperial policy—the age and the man—in short, all exquisitely delineated. So small the compass—so complete the delineation—just as through Lord Ross's telescope you command the examination of the moon. Then there is a perpetual delight in the style which jets out every now and then in wit—true wit—by which you can see! Jesters in modern days have managed to degrade the reputation of wit; people forget what true wit is—that it is found nearly always in the greatest intellects; in Plato, Cicero, Bacon, Tacitus, Montesquieu, Pascal. In Tacitus, for example, the epigrams all come in like little lamps in an illumination—making the way bright and clear.

Now, it is the fact of the immense success of this biography which has led so many moderns to try their hands at a classical one. No one scarcely is content to delineate a human story both simply and naturally; he must delineate his theory about it. He must resemble the pedant in "Moliere," who asks his mistress to come and see the dissection of a very fine woman. The ship having made its voyage, it does not satisfy one of these fellows to say how she looked, what adverse winds she fell in with, how the sky looked overhead—even what they had to eat and drink aboard, which is, at least, a matter of human interest. No;—he must lay down the course, define the latitude and longitude, note the variations of the compass. In plain language, he must become a pedant and a bore.

Hence it is that the real, charming, readable biographies are those which make no such scientific pretence; fellows write them from love, or stupid wonder, or mere eccentricity—consequently, write them *naturally*. If you want, therefore, the pleasure of a genuine biographical reading, you will find it in books far more like the "Children in the Wood" than the "Lives" of Cornelius Nepos—though Catullus has dedicated to him, and his Latin is delicious. We would even say that "Puss in Boots" is a better biography than some notable ones we could name; for "Puss" is, at all events, a cat, and these ones contain nothing really like a Man!

Among good natural biographies there is a very strange one—one that is really peculiar. It is the "Life of Spinoza," by Jean Coler. But for that little book we should really know nothing of Spinoza, personally. Luckily for the great Jew, however, good Jean Coler, Lutheran minister at the Hague, took lodgings in the house where he had lived; the "chamber in which I study (on the second floor) being the one where he slept," says Jean. In consequence of this, and of Jean's being an open-hearted, true man, we have a distinct image of the philosopher extant at this hour—an olive-Jewish-faced man; bright-eyed, dressed like a "simple bourgeois"—working hard—living on gruel and little messes—addicted to tobacco—coming down stairs to chat with his landlady about "my predecessor's" sermon. And yet Jean feared and hated (or tried to hate) Spinoza's life and work generally, and even alludes to him as "*ce malheureux*," and once kicks at him as "Satan!" The good Jean, however, was better-hearted than he knew. So great is the force of nature in a man! Goldsmith could not look repelling enough to snub a pig-butcher; and Jean Coler wrote a first-rate biography in spite of himself.

Another biography, delightful for the same qualities, is Roper's "Life of Sir Thomas More"—"Son Roper," who married Sir Thomas's daughter. This little book, like your first-rate biographies generally, is a mere pamphlet in size. How different from such huge tomes as "Gifford's Life of Pitt!" How different from Sir James Mackintosh's "Life of Sir Thomas More"—a good biography, too, in a bad way! It is true that Mackintosh must be read; but Roper is loved. He introduces us to the family. He shows us the grave and gentle old man walking with his friends at Chelsea, the wise and homely being that he was—

"My father in his habit as he lived!"

Biographies like these are Freemason Lodges, where men of all ages meet as brothers.

Then there is another such book, more eccentric a great deal, but a very loveable book—one which has received the distinct, genial, and emphatic commendation of Charles Lamb. It is the "Life of the Duke of Newcastle, by his Duchess." The Duke was not a great man, nor his Duchess a great writer.—But the Life of one written by the other is a capital and most interesting biography. We sympathise with the stately, pedantic Cavendish (a kind of Gold Stick of a man) in his dreary Royalist exile; we are interested in knowing how civilly his creditors treated him, supplying him with "all kinds of food and drink" for long years of waiting. We love the good lady whose jewels were forthcoming instantly, should pawn- ing be necessary. And surely the laugh is good-natured which is excited by that curious appendix wherein she collects the various sayings of her lord—not one of which rises above the ordinary intellect of well-dressed mankind. Only once, if we remember right, does he even distantly approach the realms of epigram. On that one occasion he declared "y^e Spanish horse to be y^e gentleman among horses"—a curious relic of imbecile Feudalism.

The "Lives" of Isaac Walton—

"Satellites burning in a lucid ring
Around meek Walton's heavenly memory,"

as Wordsworth so beautifully calls them, will always be specially honoured in literary remembrance. Simplicity unalloyed by weakness—that charming genuineness where no pity mingles with the love—only honour—a whiteness, as of grey hairs—distinguish that book. Another biographer who is true! Donne and Hooker live again in his pages. Their images strike

upon you like the figures of knights in an ancient church. Emerson says, somewhere, in his superb, fanciful way, "that it would seem as if the great minerals of the earth occasionally sent up a man made of themselves, to explain them." We might apply the theory to Walton, and declare him the human representative of marble—the stone of purity and record; so clearly, so beautifully his pages tell the story of the dead whose memory they conserve.

These works, in their various ways, are types of the best order of biographies; and they are few. Biographies of the classical school again are abundant as dead leaves. But everything may be well done in its way; and though few people will, now-a-days, rave in praise of Bayle of the *Dictionary*—Bayle, at all events, is readable, and contains immense biographical information. For he,



BOSWELL AND JOHNSON AT THE MITRE.

at least, was genuine as far as he went—loved his scholarship and his books; and, whether the subject be Ovid or Luther, Lucretius or Heloise, he is down on you readily with his copious reading, his smart, dexterous reasoning, and his unwearied vivacity. The logical and lively Peter, indeed, is eminently readable. He is so very literary, also, that you would occasionally forget he was human—unless he reminded you of it by showing a taste for "improper" and amusing speculations and anecdotes. Peter's death was the most thoroughly literary on record. He woke up one morning, and inspected a "proof" while his housekeeper was lighting his fire. The honest woman puffed away at the sticks, which crackled hopefully for boiling his coffee. But Death had been inspecting his proofs in the *interim*, and had sternly blotted Peter out. When the housekeeper turned round, her clear-eyed master was dead.

Our modern habit of preserving people's letters so carefully,

wrote in the classical tradition; and, in general, you can scarcely feel the beating of his great heart through the thick skin of his systematic style! Hence his biographies do not rank with Plutarch and Walton's. As might be expected, the "Savage" is the best of them. It is one of the very few didactic biographies which one enjoys. Condorcet's "Voltaire" is another.

Mitford's "Life of Gray," a perfectly mediocre performance, ("parfaitement ennuyeux!" said Talleyrand, when he heard somebody called "ennuyeux") claims this one distinction,—it's form suggested Boswell's form. What he achieved by suggesting that, everybody knows. By right of his heart, Boswell belongs to the immortals. His head alone would carry him the other way. Like the youths in Virgil's Elysian fields, who win their right to the myrtle grove by dying for love, Boswell owes his honour to his affection. He is certainly underrated, however, even as regards his talent. For, consider the selection, disposition, dramatic rendering of all he heard and saw of Johnson, in his book; the exquisite management which becomes clearer to you in proportion as you thoroughly study it. These argue real intellectual qualities. Many a man, having a worse heart, has come to be falsely taken to have a better understanding. Many a more cautious man has come to be thought an abler man, because he was more cautious. It is easy enough to avoid being caught tripping, by making up your mind only to creep! But it is too late, now-a-days, one hopes, to discuss Boswell's Johnson! Do we like rain in summer? Do we love our country?

We may note here, that when a biography is a *good book*, the subject of it is always a good man, and worthy. Nature abhors the canonisation of scoundrels and fools, though men try it frequently. Wooden monuments rot. The air, the wind, summer and sunshine are against them. Often a ponderous preservation of a bad man is attempted; but the bad odour of him breaks through the lead! How natural that bad men should have dull, dead biographies, —as toads get preserved, in stone!

When we come to our own day, which the reader is possibly anxious that we should do, we find in biography, as in other departments, more heart and life,—a desperate effort to break through classical trammels,—a determination to picture people livingly, or to leave them alone. The Giffords, the Listers, the Mallets, the Dixes, are as good as defunct. Human nature revolts

at them. The writer who doubts his ability to execute a "Life," modestly publishes his hero's correspondence, and honestly leaves you to make him out for yourself. This, the honest class does, and "Memoirs" abound in the land, and great good is done by the publication of letters. Bad biographers still, of course pursue the old game; catching yearly less and less. Dix's "Life of Chatterton" is even vanishing from the very stalls, and shrinks from the light of the sun. Old documents are ferreted out, that truth may appear. For a long time, we remarked

"—the blind mechanic motions
That precede the higher life!"

and now, the higher class of minds are aiming to blend into classical forms, and to shape into works of art, materials illumined by that reviving spirit of love and sympathy with which biography ought to be approached. The romantic woos the classical for its bride, and says, with Herrick,

"When I meet thy silvery feet,
My soul I'll pour into thee!"

Several writers of our time illustrate these observations, and stand out, in their various forms, fresh and living types of growth in the literary fields. Witness the graceful, good-heartedness of Laman Blanchard's "Memoir of L. E. L.," the tender, sympathetic story of Keats's "Life," by one whom we noticed the other day among the "Oriental Travellers;" Mr. Hepworth Dixon's vivid, steel-clear representations of Howard and Penn, shown as in a steel mirror,—brightly, though hardly; the luminous, high-toned vivacity of Forster's "Life of Goldsmith;" and that great book, the "Life of Sterling," by Thomas Carlyle, which is a Plutarchian "Life," and an "Agricola," both in one!

Such books as this last are the hope of biography, and their influence must be felt for ever in it. But, of course, there are biographies without these high pretensions, which, as works of scholarship, industry, good sense, and power, are not to be passed over in an article on biography. No view we may take of the high functions of the biographer should prevent us duly honouring these. The man would deserve to have his life written by Dix who should neglect the clear, gentle conciseness of the little "Life of Luther" by Melancthon; the honest warmth and homely sense in M'Crie's "Life of Knox;" Moore's graphic and brilliant Memoirs of Sheridan and Byron; Lockhart's high-hearted, brightly-written "Life of Scott;" and the vigorous verbosity of Brougham's "Statesmen," which, at all events, *moves*. It is pleasant, too, to have an opportunity of noticing a well-done thing not well-known. Let us honourably mention the really well-written "Memoir of Chatterton," prefixed to the Cambridge edition of his poems; Southey's "Nelson" and "Kirke White," are familiar to all.

Mr. Disraeli's "Bentinck," as a *political* biography, is, properly, not a biography, in the sense in which we have been using the word, at all; for every politician is, we apprehend, a man, too, and not a mere debater and statistician. But Mr. Disraeli gives us only a parliamentary summary—no life. It is all Hansard. It is a blue-book biography. Fancy Dr. Johnson a literary biography, or Mozart a musical biography. Who could read them but *literati* and musicians? This choice of Mr. Disraeli is the more unfortunate, as, after all, the interest of Lord George's career does not lie in his merely public achievements; his personal character is what interests the country, and we will bet (here is a chance for a speculator) that "Lord George Bentinck, a *Sporting* Biography,"—giving three years of his best sporting life, when everybody liked him, and honoured him, in his then capacity,—would beat Disraeli's book hollow! It would show his hero as picturesquely as he could be shown; would paint his image on the retina of the country's eye more clearly, far, than that book does. It would be, in truth, a better "biography," if our remarks have at all

shown what a biography ought to be. How strange it is that the author, writing of his friend and comrade, never for an instant invests him with the touching characteristics of one who has been loved and lost! Debate follows debate, laboured sentence follows laboured sentence; we are buried in cotton, and soused into sugar,—keel-hauled under the clumsy vessel of Protection till we are half-drowned, in fact! It is an apologetic epitaph, too long to read, much less to remember.

Shall we not take a lesson from all manner of biographical failures, and write our biographies in a better way? We know why the men who died "before Agamemnon" are forgotten, don't we? Horace, we believe, says it was because they wanted "vate sacro!" Ah! the essence of it lies in the *sacro!* And the source of the sacred is the Heart!

J. H.



THE DEATH OF JOHNSON.

ought, surely, to make biography a much easier business. With the very entrails of the man before him, shall not the biographical augur favour us with luminous remarks? There is Middleton, who wrote the "Life of Cicero," he surely wanted neither materials, nor scholarship, nor admirable talents. No: but he wanted human eyes, and the curse of pedantry was on his brain, and the curse of France was on his style, and it would be less fatiguing to read all his authorities than to read his book! There are Johnson's "Lives,"—we cannot assign them a first-rate place among biographies. We read them, though, we should hope! Johnson's style is at its best, by-the-by, in the said "Lives," much less grandiloquent than in the "Rambler" and "Rasselas,"—more like his conversation. And why is not his style always like his conversation, and immortal? Because the good Doctor lived and